

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
GRAND LODGE
OF
ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS
OF MINNESOTA,

AT ITS
THIRTY-SECOND GRAND ANNUAL COMMUNICATION IN
THE CITY OF SAINT PAUL, JANUARY 13
AND 14, A. D. 1885, A. L. 5885.

ORDERED TO BE READ IN ALL THE LODGES.

M. W. HENRY R. DENNY, G. M., Carver.
R. W. A. T. C. PIERSON, G. S., St. Paul.

ST. PAUL:
THE PIONEER PRESS PUBLISHING CO.,
1885.

REVISED

CRAND LORGE

ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONRY

OF MINNESOTA

THE GRAND LODGE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA
HOLDING AN EXTRAORDINARY COMMUNION
AT ST. PAUL, MINN., ON THE 10TH DAY OF
JANUARY, 1888.

THE GRAND LODGE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA
HOLDING AN EXTRAORDINARY COMMUNION
AT ST. PAUL, MINN., ON THE 10TH DAY OF
JANUARY, 1888.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

GRAND LODGE OF MINNESOTA.

THIRTY-SECOND ANNUAL COMMUNICATION.

FIRST DAY.

In accordance with the provisions of the Grand Constitution, the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Minnesota, convened at Masonic Hall, St. Paul, on Tuesday, January 13, A. D. 1885, A.°L.° 5885, at 12 M.

The Most Worshipful Grand Master, assisted by the following officers, opened a lodge of Master Masons, preparatory to the opening of the Grand Lodge:

M.° W.° HENRY R. DENNY	Grand Master.
R.° W.° R. H. GOVE.....	Deputy Grand Master.
R.° W.° A. P. FITCH.....	Grand Senior Warden.
R.° W.° C. H. SMITH.....	Grand Junior Warden.
R.° W.° J. H. THOMPSON.....	Grand Treasurer.
R.° W.° A. T. C. PIERSON	Grand Secretary.
W.° J. A. KEISTER.....	Grand Orator.
W.° REV. EDWARD ASHLEY.....	Grand Chaplain.
W.° LEVI FOLSOM.....	Grand Senior Deacon.
W.° A. BARTO.....	Grand Junior Deacon.

Minneapolis, No. 19.....	Chas. C. Brand, W. . M. . Wm. D. Peet, S. . W. . Sam. S. Kilvington, J. . W. .
Caledonia, No. 20.....	P. A. Pope, W. . M. .
Rochester, No. 21.....	A. L. Gove, W. . M. . A. T. Stebbins, J. . W. .
Pleasant Grove, No. 22.....	George Logan, W. . M. .
North Star, No. 23.....	A. L. Cramb, W. . M. . W. D. Taylor, S. . W. .
Wilton, No. 24.....	Edward Burling, W. . M. . H. C. Woodbury, proxy for S. . W. .
Western Star, No. 26.....	J. Q. Annis, W. . M. . W. P. Sergeant, proxy for S. . W. .
Blue Earth Valley, No. 27.....	Andrew C. Dunn, W. . M. .
Clear Water, No. 28.....	Joseph Whittemore, W. . M. . E. P. Crossman, S. . W. .
Morning Star, No. 29..	G. W. Boynton, W. . M. . Reynolds Remp, S. . W. .
Anoka, No. 30.....	Henry O. Hilton, W. . M. . O. S. Cutler, proxy for S. . W. . Frank E. Abear, J. . W. .
King Hiram, No. 31.....	R. H. McClelland, W. . M. . M. A. Larson, S. . W. . John W. Callender, J. . W. .
Sakatah, No. 32.....	Frank Tousley, W. . M. . Dan. C. Potter, S. . W. . R. W. Jacklin, proxy for J. W. .
Star in the East, No. 33.....	Henry Birkett, M. . W. . D. L. Davis, proxy for S. . W. .
Orential, No. 34.....	J. A. Wilson, proxy for W. . M. . D. L. Davis, proxy for S. . W. .
Mt. Moriah, No. 35.....	Wm. Hodgson, W. . M. . J. L. Powers, proxy for S. . W. .
Preston, No. 36.....	Geo. W. Hard, W. . M. .
Mystic Tie, No. 37.....	Geo. W. Swarthout, W. . M. .
Washington, No. 38.....	Hiram W. Severns, W. . M. .
Fidelity, No. 39.....	C. L. West, proxy for lodge.
Carnelian, No. 40.....	J. W. Kennedy, W. . M. . E. J. Manning, J. . W. .
Herman, No. 41.....	Chas. E. Johnson, W. . M. . Chas. B. Anderson, proxy for S. . W. . J. H. Hall, J. . W. .
Hope, No. 42.....	H. L. Simons, S. . W. .

Harmony, No. 43.....	Isaac C. Slade, W. . M. .
King Solomon, No. 44.....	Isaac L. Lincoln, proxy for W. . M. . J. W. Sencerbox, J. . W. .
Union, No. 45.....	H. F. Meyer, W. . M. . Geo. W. Taylor, S. . W. .
Evergreen, No. 46.....	Not represented.
Concord, No. 47.....	Wm. H. Hall, W. . M. .
Social, No. 48.....	F. A. Noble, proxy for lodge.
Rising Sun, No. 49.....	Everett C. Johnson, S. . W. .
Watertown, No. 50.....	C. G. Halgren, S. . W. .
Acacia, No. 51.....	Robert Wilkins, W. . M. . Wm. W. Furber, S. . W. .
Cannon River, No. 52.....	George Molm, W. . M. .
Nicollet, No. 54.....	Geo. F. Merritt, W. . M. . G. S. Ives, proxy for S. . W. . Thos. Montgomery, proxy for J. . W. .
Zion, No. 55.....	D. M. Woodbury, W. . M. . C. E. Peaslee, S. . W. . E. O. Ballard, J. . W. .
Meridian, No 56.....	George Andrus, W. . M. .
Blue Earth City, No. 57.....	Peter B. Davy, W. . M. .
Spring Valley, No 58.....	J. H. Bonsteel, W. . M. . B. F. Farmer, proxy for S. . W. . G. M. Warren, proxy for J. . W. .
Temple, No. 59.....	L. M. Barrie, W. . M. .
Star in the West, No. 60.....	E. Bridgeman, W. . M. .
Ashlar, No. 61.....	E. M. Weston, W. . M. .
Star, No. 62.....	Not represented.
Illustrious, No. 63.....	Geo. R. Hall, W. . M. .
Chain Lake, No. 64.....	F. S. Livermore, W. . M. .
Golden Rule, No. 65.....	R. H. Saunderson, W. . M. .
Madelia, No. 66.....	Wm. H. Witham, W. . M. .
Corinthian, No. 67.....	E. Z. Needham, W. . M. .
Mystic Star, No. 69.....	Sam. G. Iverson, W. . M. .
Paynesville, No. 71.....	A. Leroy Elliott, W. . M. .
Lansing, No. 72.....	P. D. Vaughn, W. . M. .
Brownsville, No. 73.....	Not represented.
Eureka, No. 75.....	C. A. Roy, W. . M. .
Joppa, No. 76.....	A. W. Kendall, S. . W. .
Tuscan, No. 77.....	Newton S. Gordon, J. . W. .

- Palestine, No. 79.....Wm. G. Ten Brook, W. . M. .
H. Van Brunt, proxy for J. . W. .
- Henderson, No. 80.....Henry Poehler, W. . M. .
- Constellation, No. 81.....S. W. McEwan, S. . W. .
- Howard, No. 82.....C. E. Smith, proxy for W. . M. .
C. W. Rickerson, proxy for S. . W. .
Jonathan Smith, J. . W. .
- Huram Abi, No. 83J. Grinnell, W. . M. .
Geo. B. Arnold, S. . W. .
- Orient, No. 84.....Taylor Robinson, proxy for W. . M. .
W. Phelps, S. . W. . and proxy for J. . W. .
- High Forest, No. 85.....E. D. Buck, S. . W. .
- Tyrian, No. 86.....G. Maxwell, W. . M. .
- Doric, No. 87.....B. F. Smith, W. . M. .
- Golden Fleece, No. 89.....Alex. D. Ross, W. . M. .
Wm. J. Nytes, S. . W. .
- Good Faith, No. 90.....M. A. Strong, proxy for W. . M. .
A. Fides, proxy for S. . W. .
- Antiquity, No. 91.....W. F. Dickinson, proxy for lodge.
- Fraternal, No. 92.....Albert Jones, W. . M. .
B. M. Vanalston, proxy for S. . W. .
- Unity, No. 93.....Not represented.
- Keystone, No. 94.....W. M. Murfin, W. . M. .
- Sherburne, No. 95.....Wm. B. Mabie, W. . M. .
Dwight R. Houlton, S. . W. .
- Libanus, No. 96.....J. S. Aldritt, proxy for W. . M. .
Blinn Convers, proxy for S. . W. .
Thos. Torson, J. . W. .
- Prudence, No. 97.....John Hutton, W. . M. .
Geo. M. Laing, S. . W. .
Joseph A. Hoople, J. . W. .
- Charity, No. 98.....Albert Marden, W. . M. .
- Corner Stone, No. 99.....E. E. Corliss, W. . M. .
A. Brandenburg, proxy for J. . W. .
- Aurora, No. 100.....John T. Frater, S. . W. .
T. C. Bivins, proxy for J. . W. .
- Fraternity, No. 101.....Isaac P. Durfee, W. . M. .
Henry E. Torrance, J. . W. .
- Lebanon, No. 102.....W. F. Nelson, W. . M. .
- Bethel, No. 103.....Not represented.
- Sharon, No. 104.....P. A. Odell, proxy for lodge.
- Mt. Tabor, No 106.....J. H. Sutherland, W. . M. .
- Relief, No. 108.....J. E. Getman, W. . M. .

Sunset, No. 109.....	W. H. Wells, W. . M. . O. J. Wood, S. . W. . W. M. Taylor, J. . W. .
Pickwick, No. 110... ..	E. B. Huffman, W. . M. .
Carver, No. 111.....	Hakon H. Holm, W. . M. . A. P. Peterson, proxy for J. . W. .
Khurum, No. 112.....	Geo. A. Todd, W. . M. . Wm. Cheney, S. . W. .
Excelsior, No. 113.....	Erastus Fouch, W. . M. . O. C. Meeker, proxy for S. . & J. . W. .
Ben Franklin, No. 114.....	Wm. H. Halbert, W. . M. . Herbert J. Miller, S. . W. . E. D. Hadley, proxy for J. . W. .
Elgin, No. 115.....	Henry W. Gilman, S. . W. .
Lafayette, No. 116.....	J. B. Graves, W. . M. .
Granite, No. 117.....	Ira O. Russell, S. . W. .
Newport, No. 118.....	Wm. Fowler, S. . W. .
Delta, No. 119.....	Geo. E. Johnston, W. . M. .
Grand Meadow, No. 121.....	Munson O. Wilsie, W. . M. .
Kellogg, No. 122.....	L. O. Cook, J. . W. .
Prairie, No. 123.....	Not represented.
Janesville, No. 124.....	J. W. Tefft, W. . M. .
Winslow Lewis, No. 125.....	O. H. Brown, Jr., J. . W. .
Moorhead, No. 126.....	Robert Patterson, W. . M. .
Centennial, No. 127.....	Wm. Ray, W. . M. .
Josephus, No. 128.....	E. M. Dyer, S. . W. .
Swift, No. 129.....	W. A. Foland, W. . M. .
Arcturus, No. 130.....	H. C. Hodgman, W. . M. .
Alma, No. 131.....	Andrew O. Myhre, S. . W. .
Humboldt, No. 132.....	F. L. Bradley, W. . M. .
Golden Sheaf, No. 133.....	B. K. Rush, W. . M. . O. C. Hansan, S. . W. . C. L. Brown, J. . W. .
Cokato, No. 134.....	Frank Griffith, S. . W. . Benjamin Lee, J. . W. .
Nelson, No. 135.....	S. R. Wells, W. . M. .
Walnut, No. 136.....	Not represented.
Appleton, No. 137.....	L. A. Countryman, W. . M. . Jas. Strathern, S. . W. .
Orion, No. 138.....	E. A. D. Salter, proxy for S. . W. . Sivert N. Livertson, J. . W. .
Verndale, No. 139.....	Theo. Farrington, W. . M. .

Little Falls, No. 140.....	Not represented.
Crookston, No. 141.....	Wm. M. Ross, W.: M.: Wm. F. Zwickey, S.: W.:
Currie, No. 142.....	B. H. Whitney, W.: M.: J. A. Maxwell, J.: W.:
Lakeview, No. 143.....	John McCallum, W.: M.:
Bird Island, No. 144.....	E. H. Keenan, W.: M.: Adelbert E. Cook, S.: W.:
Melrose, No. 145.....	N. M. Freeman, S.: W.: H. C. Magusen, J.: W.:
Benton, No. 146.....	Chas. M. Morse, J.: W.:
Canby, No. 147.....	John Moore, W.: M.:
Quarry, No. 148.....	C. C. Goodnow, W.: M.:
Guardian, No. 149.....	Alonzo L. Brown, W.: M.:
Warren, No. 150.....	E. W. Rossman, W.: M.: P. L. Stickney, S.: W.:
Chaska, No. 151.....	Wm. C. Odell, W.: M.: Chas. A. Ramsdill, S.: W.:
Frontier, No. 152.....	Not represented.
Kodahya, No. 153.....	E. Ashley, W.: M.:
Norma, No. 154.....	John C. Wright, S.: W.:
Tracy, No. 155.....	N. M. Todd, W.: M.: J. D. Owens, S.: W.:
	F. S. Brown, J.: W.:
Wadena, No. 156.....	Henry F. Birch, proxy for lodge.
Perham, No. 157.....	Elmer J. Frost, W.: M.:
Hector, No. 158.....	Smith Dewes, W.: M.:

PAST GRAND OFFICERS.

M.:W.:A. T. C. PIERSON	Past Grand Master.
M.:W.:GEO. W. PRESCOTT.....	Past Grand Master.
M.:W.:CHAS. GRISWOLD	Past Grand Master.
M.:W.:EDWARD W. DURANT.....	Past Grand Master.
M.:W.:HENRY R. WELLS	Past Grand Master.
M.:W.:C. HENRY BENTON.....	Past Grand Master.
R.:W.:AARON GOODRICH.....	Past Deputy Grand Master.
R.:W.:W. T. RIGBY.....	Past Deputy Grand Master.
R.:W.:SAMUEL ADAMS.....	Past Grand Senior Warden.
R.:W.:EDGAR NASH.....	Past Grand Senior Warden.
R.:W.:L. Z. ROGERS.....	Past Grand Senior Warden.
R.:W.:WM. LEE.....	Past Grand Junior Warden.
R.:W.:E. P. BARNUM	Past Grand Junior Warden.
R.:W.:GEO. A. CAMP	Past Grand Junior Warden.
R.:W.:J. H. BROWN.....	Past Grand Junior Warden.

VISITORS.

On motion of R. . W. Bro. . G. A. Camp (2), it was

Resolved, That all Master Masons in good and regular standing be permitted to visit the Grand Lodge during the present session.

ORATOR'S ADDRESS.

On motion of M. . W. . Bro. C. Griswold (3), it was ordered that the address of the Grand Orator be made a special order for 8 o'clock this evening.

The Grand Lodge was then called to refreshment until 3:30 P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

JANUARY 13, 3:30 P. M.

The Grand Lodge resumed labor, officers and members as at the morning session.

COMMITTEES.

The Grand Master announced the following committees :

RETURNS OF LODGES.

Bros. A. LaDuc (11), P. A. Pope (20), A. L. Cramb (23), A. C. Dunn (27), W. G. Ten Brook (79), J. E. Getman (108), John Hutton (97), Edgar Nash (112), J. McCallum (143), W. M. Ross (141).

LODGES U. . D. .

Bros. P. B. Davy (57), C. A. Roy (75), W. A. Foland (129).

GRAND TREASURER AND GRAND SECRETARY'S ACCOUNTS.

Bros. W. F. Dickenson (91), W. H. Halbert (114), C. L. West (39).

APPEALS AND GRIEVANCES.

Bros. J. H. Brown (104), A. Marden (98), D. M. Baldwin (8), G. S. Ives (54), E. E. Corliss (99).

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

Bros. A. T. C. Pierson (5), Irving Todd (7), Thomas Montgomery (54).

ANCIENT LANDMARKS.

Bros. A. Goodrich (3), C. M. Foote (112), C. H. Smith (97), F. A. Noble (48.)

MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

M. . W. . Bros. C. H. Benton (2), G. W. Prescott (5), Chas. Griswold (3), E. W. Durant (1), H. R. Wells (36).

APPROPRIATIONS.

Bros. H. R. Wells (36), E. P. Barnum (60), A. D. Ross (89).

PAY ROLL.

Bros. J. H. Thompson (4), E. W. Rossman (150), A. D. Boyce (89).

UNFINISHED BUSINESS.

Bros. Henry Kreis (16), C. J. Stauff (14), H. O. Hilton (30).

PRINTING.

Grand Secretary, Grand Treasurer, L. Z. Rogers (32).

The M. . W. . Grand Master then read the following

ADDRESS:

Brethren of the Grand Lodge:

Since the formation of this Grand Lodge a period of time has elapsed equal to that usually allotted to a generation of mankind, and on this, our thirty-second annual communication, I congratulate you upon the fact that prosperity still attends the fraternity in this jurisdiction.

Masonry has met with no reverses, but continues to march in the van of the intellectual and moral influences which have been so largely instrumental in advancing our beautiful State to her present proud position.

Of those whose labors have been so efficacious in accomplishing these gratifying results, and whose wisdom is indelibly written upon our records, we are fortunate in having here present with us to-day six of our Past Grand Masters—a pleasure rarely experienced by any Grand Lodge. During the past year it has pleased the Supreme Architect of the Universe to remove from this chain one of its brightest links, in the death of our Past Grand Master, Grove B. Cooley, who died, after a short illness, in August, 1884.

Bro. Cooley was born in Attica, N. Y., Dec. 10, 1827. Being possessed of rare mental powers and great diligence, he acquired a liberal education, which, after his removal to Wisconsin in 1850, commanded for him a place among the leading professors of Ripon College, which he filled with great credit to himself and honor to the institution, from 1853 to 1858. In 1858 he removed to Minnesota and located at Mantorville, where he engaged in the practice of his chosen profession—the law—gaining a leading position among the legal profession of the State. He was a leading member of the board of education of Mantorville, and was elected to the offices of county attorney and judge of probate, both of which positions he filled with great credit. In 1872 he represented Dodge County in the legislature, where he held the highest position, that of chairman of the judiciary committee. During the same year he removed to Minneapolis, where he soon succeeded in building up an extensive practice, and in 1874 he became judge of the municipal court of the city of Minneapolis, to which position he was re-elected, and served with the highest honors for nine successive years, until the severe labors undermined his once vigorous health, and he was forced to retire and resume his practice, which he continued until his death. Bro. Cooley was made a Mason in Ripon Lodge, Wisconsin, in 1857, and was an earnest and diligent student of our order. He was elected Master of Mantorville Lodge, No. 11, and represented that lodge in the Grand Lodge in 1860, since which time he has been an invaluable member. In 1865 he was elected Grand Senior Warden; in 1870 Deputy Grand Master, and Most Worshipful Grand Master in 1872. His eminent services since he laid down the gavel are well known to you all. As

chairman of the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence he was a guiding light to the craft, and his labors have left their imprint on our records. He was a member of St. Johns Royal Arch Chapter, No. 9, of Minneapolis; Council of R. A. and S. A. M. A. No. — of Minneapolis; of Damascus Commandery No. 1, of St. Paul; had received the 32° of A. A. and A. A. Scottish Rite, and was at the time of his death Most Illustrious Grand Master of the Grand Council of Minnesota.

He was a ready and versatile writer, and has left many brilliant articles, both in poetry and prose, which will be cherished by his brethren. His was a genial and noble nature, full of love for his brethren; generous to the degree of impoverishing himself in relieving the necessities of others, and ever ready to sympathize with their afflictions. Brethren, it is unnecessary for me to speak further of the good qualities of one so intimately well known to you all. His death was untimely, and his brethren mourn.

His funeral obsequies were held at Minneapolis, August 24, 1884, under the direction of the Grand Lodge, assisted by Khurum, No. 112, of which he was a member, the Grand Council of Minnesota; Zion commandery furnishing an escort. Notwithstanding the severe inclemency of the weather a large concourse of the brethren were present, consisting of M. A. W. A. Bros. A. T. C. Pierson, C. Griswold and C. H. Benton, Past Grand Masters, Past Deputy Grand Master Aaron Goodrich, Grand Treasurer J. H. Thompson, Grand Marshal C. M. Foote, Grand Senior Steward G. W. Lamson, and delegations from Stillwater, Hastings, Red Wing, Faribault, St. Cloud, Glencoe, Duluth, Carver, Henderson, Mankato, and St. Peter.

On Sunday, October 5th, a lodge of sorrow was held at Minneapolis by the members of the A. A. and A. A. Scottish Rite, during the impressive ceremonies of which a eulogy upon his virtues was pronounced by far abler lips than mine. I recommend that a memorial page in the Grand Lodge proceedings be dedicated to him.

VISITATIONS.

During the past year I have been able to visit quite a number of the lodges, and in every instance have found it both pleasant and profitable to myself, and I hope mutually agreeable to them.

I have at all times met with the most cordial reception on the part of the brethren and have been happy to make their personal acquaintance within their own homes. The recollections of these visits will always remain among the pleasantest of my official acts. Among them I especially remember a visit to Palestine Lodge, No. 79, of Duluth, accompanied by Past Grand Master Benton and R. : W. : Bro. C. M. Foote, at which time the brethren entertained us sumptuously.

The large number of lodges necessarily precludes the pleasure of a visit to each of them, but the District Deputies have nearly all of them fulfilled well their part in this respect.

LODGES CONSTITUTED.

Charters were granted at the last annual communication to lodges as follows: Perham, No. 157, and Hector, No. 158. These charters were issued and the lodges constituted by the following competent brethren appointed for that purpose: Perham, No. 157, by R. : W. : District Deputy Grand Master T. C. Bivens, and Hector, No. 158, by R. : W. : A. P. Fitch, S. : G. : W. :

I am reliably informed that each of these lodges has been doing good work, and fair prospects are open before them.

DISPENSATIONS.

I have during the year ordered dispensations issued for lodges at the following places: Villard, Pope County; Minneapolis, Hennepin County; Herman, Grant County, and St. Paul, Ramsey County. The brethren named as officers in each case have been examined as to their proficiency in the work, and they have been visited, and are reported to be doing good work. Their returns will be presented to you for inspection.

I have refused several petitions for dispensations in sparsely settled portions of the State, believing that the interests of the *whole* fraternity would be best subserved by such refusal. In my opinion it is far better for a few brethren to suffer temporal inconvenience than to constitute a weak lodge whose struggles for existence, oftentimes with an impoverished treasury burdened with

debt, are pitiable in the extreme, and the result of which has, in many instances, been the reception of material for the work of a quality inferior to that which would have been demanded under other circumstances. It is not pleasant to deny to the brethren the privileges they ask for, but a Grand Master's duty is to the craft universally, and I trust they will agree with me in this view and bear their disappointment cheerfully.

SPECIAL DISPENSATIONS.

Like all Grand Masters, I have received numerous applications for special dispensations for various purposes, which I have granted in some instances where it appeared that the interests of the craft would be promoted thereby. I have, however, followed the rule established by my predecessors for reasons which they have ably stated, not to grant such dispensations in cases where applicants for degrees have desired to petition lodges before the expiration of the proper time of residence within the jurisdiction.

CORRESPONDENCE.

I have received and answered a large number of letters during the year from lodges throughout this jurisdiction. I have found this generally a pleasant task, and it has enlarged my acquaintance with the brethren. Numerous questions on a variety of subjects have been propounded to me, which, I am glad to state, I have in nearly all instances been able to answer fully by referring to the constitution and the abundant supply of wisdom found in the decisions of our Past Grand Masters, contained in the proceedings of the Grand Lodge, which I earnestly recommend to the perusal of the officers of lodges as a shorter method of gaining a large amount of information valuable to them. While in many cases I have endeavored to aid masters of lodges by giving my opinion where the regulations did not appear clear to them, in no instance have I rendered a "decision" of sufficient importance to be reported for your action. In answering correspondence I have followed the rule of considering communications from the Worshipful Master or Secretary of a lodge as official.

BY-LAWS.

Several lodges have sent me by-laws and amendments for approval, which has brought to my notice the fact that there is no uniformity in the by-laws of the lodges in this jurisdiction. Many of them appear to be the fruit of the labors of some brother of legislative or legal experience who has carefully compiled them, section upon section, until the result utterly confounds the brother who has not enjoyed equal advantages; and I desire to state, in this connection, that while a Grand Master cannot consistently disapprove the constitution or regulations of the Grand Lodge, it is not, in my opinion, necessary to incorporate the whole of them into the by-laws of a subordinate lodge. And I would renew the recommendation of other Grand Masters that a committee be appointed to prepare a simple code, to be published in the proceedings of the present year, as a guide for lodges from which to frame their by-laws from.

WORK.

At our last communication the matter of uniformity of the work was considered, and resolutions passed conferring greater authority upon the District Deputies and enjoining upon them the duty of instructing the lodges under their charge. Pursuant to those resolutions I appointed the several deputies, after receiving assurances from them that they would faithfully endeavor to perform the duties devolving upon them. I called them together at St. Paul and spent two days in exemplifying the work, and sent them out on their mission of enlightening the craft. A majority of them have done so, as their reports now on file will show, and have labored faithfully. Some, however, were unable to perform their duties, leaving a portion of the jurisdiction which has not been visited. Wherever instruction has been given the brethren have been ready and eager to receive it, and it is the universal report of deputies that they have been received and treated with the greatest cordiality, and that the pleasure has been mutual.

Though this labor has necessarily in many instances been performed in a somewhat imperfect manner, owing to the fact that

the deputies did not receive adequate compensation for their time and expenses, and could not spend as much time as would have been desirable, I am satisfied considerable benefit has been derived, and would recommend that the system be continued until such time as the Grand Lodge sees fit to procure the services of a Grand Lecturer. I also earnestly recommend to the craft the study of the public ceremonials of our order.

I desire to render thanks to Minnesota Royal Arch Chapter, No. 1, for their kindness in furnishing the use of this hall for the meeting of the District Deputies.

DEDICATION OF HALL.

Dec. 5, 1884, accompanied by Past Grand Master A. T. C. Pierson, I dedicated the hall of Carnelian Lodge, No. 40, at Lake City. This lodge has now a beautiful and finely furnished home, and I can vouch for the fact that they thoroughly understand how to entertain in the most charming manner.

INSTALLATIONS.

On the evening of December 23d I visited Minneapolis and installed the officers of Hennepin, No. 4, and Minneapolis, No. 19, assisted by Grand Marshal C. M. Foote. I also installed the officers of Carver, No. 111, on December 27th.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

I have but little legislation to recommend, believing that our prosperity is fully assured under the present regulations.

I would call your attention to the decision on page 14 of the proceedings of 1880—sec. 32, constitution—matter of liability for dues of the brethren who work lodges under dispensation, in connection with the thirty-second section of the constitution, which declares them suspended as members of their several lodges while the lodge U. . D. . continues. This has been a source of difficulty among the brethren of lodges U. . D. . and their respective lodges. It seems manifestly unjust that a brother who may have been contributing liberally towards defraying the ex-

penses of a lodge U. ·. D. ·. should still be obliged to pay dues to a lodge from whose benefits and privileges he is suspended on account of his connection with the lodge U. ·. D. ·. On the other hand, it is also an act of injustice to compel the payment of Grand Lodge dues from the lodge claiming him as a member if they are not allowed to collect dues from him. In my estimation, a regulation might be provided which would release the payment by the members of a lodge U. ·. D. ·. to their respective lodges of a greater sum than the Grand Lodge dues during the time of working such lodge under dispensation.

I am happy to state that the pleasant fraternal relations between this Grand Lodge and all other Grand Lodges heretofore recognized remain unchanged. May the cement of brotherly love and affection long unite us.

REPRESENTATIVE.

During the year I have received a commission from M. ·. W. ·. J. F. Saulsbury, Grand Master of Delaware, as Representative of that Grand Lodge near the Grand Lodge of Minnesota.

Brethren, at the close of our Masonic year I congratulate you upon the progress which has been made within our borders. Nearly all of our lodges are stronger, numerically and financially, than ever before.

The financial condition of the Grand Lodge is rapidly improving, and its funds carefully and safely managed by our most efficient Grand Treasurer and Grand Secretary. Our numbers are increasing rapidly, and prosperity dwells within our halls.

In concluding this report of my official acts I return to you my warmest thanks for the honor you have conferred on me in placing me in my present position, and for the uniform kindness and courtesy with which I have been treated at all times by officers and brethren. I trust that the spirit of harmony will pervade all your deliberations, and that brotherly love will prevail throughout.

H. R. DENNY,

Grand Master.

REFERENCE OF ADDRESS.

On motion of R. . W. . Bro. R. H. Gove (21), the address of the M. . W. . Grand Master was referred to a special committee of three for subdivision and reference.

Bros. R. H. Gove (21), J. S. Aldritt (96), J. H. Bonesteel (58), were appointed such committee.

The Grand Secretary and Grand Treasurer each presented his annual report, which was referred to the Committee on Grand Secretary's and Grand Treasurer's Accounts.

REPORT OF GRAND SECRETARY.

To the M. . W. . Grand Lodge of Minnesota :

In compliance with the requirements of the Constitution of the Grand Lodge, the Grand Secretary presents his annual report.

PROCEEDINGS.

The transactions of the Grand Lodge had at its last annual communication, were printed and the usual distribution made at as early a date as possible, consequent upon a change of printers.

CHARTERS.

The charters ordered at the last annual communication were severally made out and delivered as soon after the close of the session as circumstances would admit.

The last day of the session usually running into the small hours of the night, it is difficult to get Grand Officers to remain and sign charters; off for their homes at an early hour in the morning, the Grand Secretary is obliged to send them to the different localities for signature, which takes time, and which must be accepted by the brethren as an excuse for delay.

DISPENSATIONS.

By direction of the M. . W. . Grand Master, dispensations for new lodges have been issued, as follows :

March 1, 1884, for Plymouth, at Minneapolis.

March 29, 1884, for Sincerity, at Villard, Pope County.

April 14, for Summit, at St. Paul.

August 6, for Prescott, at Hermon, Grant County.

In each case the application was accompanied by the fee. The Grand Treasurer's receipt herewith.

BINDING.

At the last annual communication an appropriation was made for binding the proceedings of other Grand Lodges. Over a hundred volumes have been bound, and still a large number of pamphlets remain unbound.

In preparing for binding many years were missing which have been kindly furnished on application to the respective Grand Secretaries.

REDUCTION OF FARE.

Each of the railroads with St. Paul connection, have courteously made reduction in the fare of delegates, except the Manitoba and Northern Pacific. Certificates will be issued at the close of the session on application to the Grand Secretary.

PERIODICALS.

The Grand Secretary is in receipt of a large number of Masonic periodicals, and it would be at least, discourteous, not to acknowledge the receipt.

Voice of Masonry and Family Magazine, Chicago, Ill.
Masonic Review, Cincinnati, Ohio.
Masonic Advocate, Indianapolis, Ind.
Canadian Craftsman and Masonic Record, Port Hope, Ontario.
The Freemason, Sydney, New South Wales.
Masonic Token, Portland Maine.
The Corner Stone, New York, N. Y.
Victoria Freemason, Melbourne, Victoria, Australia.
Texas Freemason, Fort Worth, Texas.
Masonic Chronicle, Columbus, Ohio.
Masonic Truth, Boston, Mass.
Masonic Chronicle, New York, N. Y.
Street's Monthly and Masonic Home, Waco, Texas.
Masonic World, Boston, Mass.
Odd Fellows Register and Masonic Journal, Portland, Me.
Light, Topeka, Kansas.
International Masonic Review, Detroit, Mich.

RETURNS.

Up to last evening the Grand Secretary had received the returns and dues of 96 lodges for which receipts have been given.

Forty-two had sent returns only, and seven had not been heard from.

The Grand Secretary desires that the Grand Lodge would devise some plan to have the returns and dues sent up several days before the

commencement of the session. The Grand Lodge expects that the Grand Secretary will have prepared for the opening of the Grand Lodge,

A table showing who are entitled to be present as representatives.

A statistical table of the work of lodges.

A financial statement of the money received for the work of the year.

These are made up from the returns. If the returns are not received in advance those tables cannot be prepared which causes a delay in the transaction of business.

In the hurly-burly of the morning, brethren bringing in their returns, paying in money, waiting for receipts, inaccuracies are apt to occur.

When our numbers were small it made but little difference, but now that we have one hundred and sixty lodges on the roll, it becomes a matter of moment that our business matters should be conducted on business principles.

APPROPRIATIONS.

Only the usual annual appropriations will be required for the coming year, unless, indeed, it is thought advisable to bind the remaining of our exchanges.

Fraternally submitted,

A. T. C. PIERSON,

Grand Secretary.

REPORT OF GRAND TREASURER.

J. H. THOMPSON, Grand Treasurer,

In account with the M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota, A. F. and A. M.

I herewith submit a financial statement of your Grand Lodge for the past Masonic year:

1884.		
Jan. 15,	To cash, balance in treasury as per last report.....	\$6,047 07
Jan. 16,	To cash, received of Bro. A. T. C. Pierson, G. S.	5,581 00
Dec. 30,	To cash, received of Bro. A. T. C. Pierson, G. S.	80 00
1885.		
Jan. 13,	To cash, received interest on Grand Lodge funds for the past year.....	150 00

DISBURSEMENTS.

1884.		
Jan. 16,	By resolution of the G. L. that the sum of \$1,000 from the funds of the G. L. be set apart and added to the Widows' and Orphans' Fund	\$1,000 00

Jan. 16,	By paid order No. 1—Bro. C. H. Benton, expenses G. . M.	300 00
Jan. 16,	By paid order No. 2—Bro. A. T. C. Pier-son, foreign correspondence.....	250 00
Jan. 16,	By paid order No. 3—Thomas Montgom-ery, Assistant Secretary.....	25 00
Jan. 16,	By paid order No. 4—Bro. O. G. Miller, printing, as per bill.....	26 75
Jan. 16,	By paid order No. 5—On account of rent G. . S. . office.....	100 00
Jan. 16,	By paid order No. 6—Bro. J. C. Fischer, for tyling G. . L. ., 1884.....	25 00
Jan. 16,	By paid order No. 7—Bro. A. T. C. Pier-son, account of postage.....	75 00
Jan. 16,	By paid order No. 9—St. Paul Lodge, No. 3, refunded (as per resolution G. . L. .),	13 00
Jan. 16,	By paid order No. 10—Bro. J. P. Kirby, re-mission G. . L. . dues, 1883, Henderson Lodge, No. 80.....	28 50
Jan. 16,	By paid order No. 11—Bro. J. W. Bryant, remission G. . L. . dues, 1883, Elgin Lodge, No. 115	37 50
Jan. 16,	By paid order No. 12—Bro. W. T. Wil-kin, remission G. . L. . dues, 1883, Fi-delity Lodge, No. 39.....	80 00
Jan. 16,	By paid order No. 13—J. M. Rohrer, re-mission G. . L. . dues, 1883, Cannon River Lodge, No. 52	28 00
Jan. 16,	By paid order No. 14—Bro. Chas. Park, overpaid dues of Oriental Lodge, No. 34	1 00
Jan. 16,	By paid order No. 15—Bro. G. A. Todd, overpaid dues of Khurum Lodge, No. 112	4 00
Jan. 16,	By paid order No. 16—Pay Roll, session of Grand Lodge, 1884.....	1,791 80
April 28,	By paid order No. 17—For Grand Lodge register.....	23 00
May 31,	By paid order No. 18—Bro. H. R. Denny, pay roll District Deputies.....	200 00
June 1,	By paid order No. 19—Bro. A. T. C. Pier-son, account salary G. . S.	312 50
June 26,	By paid order No. 20—Insurance of G. . L. . property.....	63 25
July 3,	By paid order No. 21—Printing G. . L. . proceedings, 1884.....	406 83
Aug. 14,	By paid order No. 22—Binding proceed-ings of Foreign G. . L.	102 85

Oct. 8,	By paid order No. 23—Bro. A. T. C. Pier- son, account salary G. . S.	250 00	
Nov. 24,	By paid order No. 24—Bro. N. F. Phillips, overpaid dues Quarry Lodge, No. 148...	2 00	
1885.			
Jan. 5,	By paid order No. 25—Bro. A. T. C. Pier- son, balance postage account, \$50; bal- ance rent account, \$62.50.....	112 50	
Jan. 5,	By paid order No. 26—Bro. A. T. C. Pier- son, balance of salary	187 50	
Jan. 13,	Balance cash in hands of Treasurer..	6,412 09	
		<hr/>	
		\$11,858 07	\$11,858 07
	Fraternally submitted,		
	J. H. THOMPSON,		
Jan. 13, 1885.	Grand Treasurer.		

WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' FUND.

To the M. . W. . Grand Lodge of Minnesota:

At a meeting of the trustees of the Widows' and Orphans' Fund, held
Jan. 18, 1884, Bro. J. H. Thompson was elected Treasurer.

REPORT OF THE TREASURER.

1884.		
Jan. 18,	Cash on hand belonging to the fund, as per report...	\$615 96
Jan. 18,	Received cash, as per resolution of the G. . L. . that the sum of \$1,000 of the funds of the G. . L. . be set apart and added to the Widows' and Orphans' Fund.....	1,000 00
1885.		
Jan. 13,	Cash received, interest on the fund for the past year	75 79

DISBURSEMENTS.

1884.		
Mch. 25,	Paid Mrs. Estelle Donehower, widow of the late Bro. John Donehower, per resolution G. . L.	\$25 00
Aug. 15,	Paid Mrs. Estelle Donehower, widow of the late Bro. John Donehower, per resolution G. . L.	50 00
Dec. 20,	Paid Mrs. Estelle Donehower, widow of the late Bro. John Donehower, per resolution G. . L.	50 00
1885.		
Jan. 13,	Cash in hands of Treasurer.....	1,591 75
		<hr/>
		\$1,691 75

Fraternally submitted,

J. H. THOMPSON,
Treasurer Widows' and Orphans' Fund.

The Grand Secretary presented the following, and moved its reference to the Committee on Appropriations:

Resolved, That the Committee on Appropriations be instructed to report an appropriation of forty-three dollars for the Grand Master, being the amount paid for the expenses of the District Deputies in excess of the amount appropriated at the last session, as per report of the Grand Master and the receipts herewith.

Adopted.

Presented by Bro. Edward Ashley (153):

Resolved, That the resolution of this Grand Lodge requiring each member to appear in Grand Lodge wearing his appropriate jewel and apron, be referred to the Committee on Ancient Landmarks.

So referred.

Presented by M. : W. : C. H. Benton (2):

Resolved, That the dues of Anoka Lodge, No. 30, be returned because of severe losses by fire during the year.

Referred to Committee on Appropriations.

Presented by Grand Secretary:

Resolved, That whereas the charter of Anoka Lodge, No. 30, was burned with the hall, the Grand Secretary is hereby instructed to issue a duplicate without fee.

Adopted.

Presented by Bro. W. F. Dickinson (91):

WHEREAS, Master Masons removing from one part of the State to another, and demitting from their old lodge, have been rejected, and so become permanently unaffiliated.

Resolved, That the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence be requested to report a resolution to this Grand Lodge, embodying in substance the following, viz.: That a M. : M. : may petition for membership in any lodge in this State without demitting from his lodge. That, if he is elected to membership in the new lodge, he shall not, however, become a member of it, unless he shall within three months thereafter file with the Secretary his demit from his former lodge, and sign the by-laws of the new one.

Referred to Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

Presented by M. : W. : C. H. Benton (2):

WHEREAS, By a regulation of this Grand Lodge, adopted at its last Annual Communication, District Deputies were intrusted with the duty of instructing lodges within their districts in the secret work, and

WHEREAS, Attendance upon the Grand Lodge will make them more familiar with the work, and is therefore to be desired; Therefore,

Resolved, That the regulation of this Grand Lodge, which now gives them a seat here, be so amended as to give *per diem* and mileage also to such as are not members, the same as to members. This amendment to take effect immediately, and be in force for our present communication.

Referred to Committee on Appropriations.

Presented by Bro. J. S. Aldritt (96):

Resolved, That the sum of one hundred dollars is hereby appropriated to the widow of Lee Hensley, late a member of Libanus Lodge, No. 96.

Referred to Committee on Appropriations.

The Grand Lodge was called to refreshment until 7:30 o'clock P. M.

EVENING SESSION.

JAN. 13, 1885, 7:30 P. M.

At the hour designated the Grand Lodge resumed labor, officers and members as at the previous session, and a large number of visiting brethren.

REFERENCE OF ADDRESS.

R. : W. : Bro. R. H. Gove (21) presented the following report, which was concurred in:

To the M. : W. : Grand Lodge of Minnesota:

We, your committee to whom was referred the address of the M. : W. : G. : Master for subdivision and reference, recommend :

1. That so much of the address as refers to the death of M. W. Bro. Grove B. Cooley, P. G. M., be referred to a special committee of three.
2. That so much of the address as refers to dispensations for new lodges be referred to the committee on work of Lodges U. D.
3. That so much of the address as refers to by-laws be referred to a special committee of three.
4. That so much of the address as refers to recommendations be referred to a special committee of three.
5. That the residue of the address be referred to a special committee of three.

Fraternally submitted,

R. H. GOVE,
J. H. BONESTEEL,
C. H. BURTON.

As such committees the Grand Master appointed:

1. M. W. H. R. Wells (36), R. W. S. E. Adams (16), R. W. A. P. Fitch (42).
3. Bros. C. S. Andrews (61), I. P. Durfee (101), L. A. Countryman (137).
4. Bros. C. W. Rickerson (82), P. D. Vaughn (72), R. H. Sanderson (65).
5. Bros. G. W. Lamson (5), R. W. W. T. Rigby (28), B. H. Whitney (142).

SPECIAL ORDER—ELECTION OF GRAND OFFICERS.

On motion of R. W. R. H. Gove (21), it was ordered that the hour of 3 o'clock P. M. to-morrow be made a special order for the election of officers.

ORATION.

Bro. J. A. Keister (57) delivered an address replete with Masonic instruction, which enchained the attention for more than an hour.

On motion of R. W. R. H. Gove (21), it was

Resolved, That R. W. J. A. Keister be, and he is hereby, requested to furnish a copy of his address, as delivered before this

Grand Lodge, to the Grand Secretary, to be embodied in and form a part of the proceedings of said Grand Lodge.*

Adopted.

RESOLUTION—REFERENCE TO RETURNS AND DUES.

R. W. Bro. G. A. Camp (2) presented a resolution, which, after discussion and amendments, was adopted, as follows:

Resolved, That it shall be the duty of each subordinate lodge in this jurisdiction to forward to the Grand Secretary, on or before the second day of January, the returns and dues of said lodge for the year preceding the Grand Annual Communication, and any lodge failing to forward the returns and dues as above, the representative of such delinquent lodge shall not receive mileage or *per diem* for the session of said Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary be, and he is hereby, instructed to print the foregoing resolution on the blank returns furnished the subordinate lodges.

On motion the Grand Lodge was called off until 9:30 o'clock A. M. to-morrow.

SECOND DAY—MORNING SESSION.

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 14, 1885, 9:30 A. M.

At the hour designated the Grand Lodge resumed labor. Officers and members as at previous session. Prayer by Grand Chaplain.

ANCIENT LANDMARKS.

The committee presented the following reports:

NOTE—For address, see Appendix A—GRAND SEC.

VISITING BROTHERS.

To the M.: W.: Grand Lodge of Minnesota:

The Committee on Landmarks is asked to define its position on the above subject. The little time allowed must be their apology for not more fully elaborating this important subject.

In brief, we say to the craft everywhere: See that none enter who are not *known* to be, or *proved* to be, worthy and well qualified.

All of which is fraternally submitted.

AARON GOODRICH,
R. H. GOVE,
C. H. SMITH,
C. M. FOOTE,
Committee.

MASONIC JEWELS.

To the M.: W.: Grand Lodge of Minnesota:

The Committee on Ancient Landmarks is asked if there be *usage* or *law* regulating the wearing of Masonic jewels.

In answer, your committee say: They believe these hieroglyphic emblems of our order have been worn by the craft from "a period beyond which the memory of man runneth not to the contrary."

Robert Burns sang — and has taught us to sing:

"Oft have I met your social band,
And spent the cheerful, festive night.
Oft, honored with supreme command,
Presided o'er the sons of light,
And by *that hieroglyphic bright*,
Which none but craftsmen ever saw!
Strong mem'ry on my heart shall write
Those happy scenes when far awa'."

And it seems meet that we should further sing *of* our gifted brothers:

"What wild vows falter on the tongue
When Scots wha hae wi' Wallace bled,
And auld Lang Syne are sung."

"Pure hopes that lift the soul above,
Come with his Cotters hymn of praise,
And dreams of youth, and truth, and love,
With Logan's banks and braes."

"And Burns, tho' brief the race he ran,
 Tho' rough and dark the path he trod,
 Lived, died in form and soul a man,
 The image of his God."

"He kept his honesty and truth,
 His independent tongue and pen,
 He moved in manhood as in youth,
 Pride of his fellow men."

"Praise to the bard! a nation stood,
 Beside his coffin with wet eyes,—
 Her brave, her beautiful, her good,—
 As when a loved one dies."

The *law* of the case reads thus:

"Each member of the Grand Lodge shall appear therein, with his proper clothing and jewel."

(See G. O. L. Regulations, Section 79.)

All of which is fraternally submitted.

AARON GOODRICH,
 R. H. GOVE,
 C. H. SMITH,
 C. M. FOOTE,
 Committee.

Concurred in.

EXEMPLIFICATION OF WORK.

For the purpose of exemplification, the Grand Master called W. O. Bro. G. W. Lamson, P. O. M. O., of Ancient Landmark Lodge, No. 5, to preside, who, assisted by officers and members of said lodge, proceeded to confer the third degree upon a candidate elected by said lodge.

The Grand Master resumed the East.

RESOLUTIONS.

Presented by Bro. W. H. Hall (47), for the relief of Bro. William Lancaster, of Concord Lodge, No. 47.

By Bro. B. F. Smith (87), widow of Bro. Sherman, late a member of Doris Lodge, No. 87.

By Bro. N. S. Gordon (77), for the relief of the widow and orphans of Bro. H. A. Mosher, late a member of Tuscan Lodge, No. 77.

Referred to Committee on Appropriations.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE ON RETURNS.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota:

Your Committee on Returns respectfully report that they have made careful examinations of the returns of the subordinate lodges, and find them generally correct. We note the exceptions.

St. Johns, No. 1, eight members unaccounted for.
Faribault, No. 9, returns correct; dues not paid.*
Sakatah, No. 32, dates of degrees and other blanks not filled in.
Hermon, No. 41, eight members not accounted for.
King Solomon, No. 44, ten members not accounted for.
Concord, No. 47, \$1 due Grand Lodge.
Meridian, No. 56, \$1 due Grand Lodge.
Spring Valley, No. 56, fifty cents due Grand Lodge.
Temple, No. 59, \$1 due Grand Lodge.
Star in the West, No. 60, \$2 due Grand Lodge.
Star, No. 62, dues not paid.*
Brownsville, No. 73, blanks not filled in.
Henderson, No. 80, overpaid \$1.
Lafayette, No. 116, overpaid \$2.
Delta, No. 119, no returns.
Golden Sheaf, No. 133, \$1 due Grand Lodge.
Cokato, No. 134, overpaid \$1.
Verndale, No. 139, \$4.50 due Grand Lodge.
Little Falls, No. 140, dues not paid.*
Frontier, No. 152, overpaid \$1.50.
Wadena, No. 156, \$2 due Grand Lodge.
With reference to existing discrepancies, we offer :

WHEREAS, An examination and comparison has developed discrepancies between the books of the Grand Secretary and the returns of a few subordinate lodges as to the number of members chargeable with Grand Lodge dues; therefore be it

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary is hereby authorized and directed to make a settlement with such lodges as shall be just and fair as to such discrepancies, and shall take such action as shall be necessary to make his books and those of the lodges to agree, that they may have a common starting point for the ensuing Masonic year.

Resolved, That a committee, consisting of three members of the Grand Lodge, be appointed by the Grand Master, to be denominated a Standing Committee on Returns; that it shall be the duty of said committee to meet at the office of the Grand Secretary at least two days previous to the Grand Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge and examine

*Received since the close of the session.—G. W. S.

and tabulate the reports of the subordinate lodges, and report to the Grand Lodge on the first day of the session thereafter, including, also, the exact financial standing of each with this Grand Lodge; such committee to receive the same mileage and *per diem* as is paid to members of the Grand Lodge.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

A. LA DUE,
J. E. GETMAN,
ANDREW C. DUNN,
JOHN MCCALLUM,
EDGAR NASH,
A. L. CRAMB,
W. G. TEN BROOK,
JOHN HUTTON,
Committee.

Adopted.

LODGES U. . D. .

To the M. . W. . Grand Lodge of Minnesota:

We, the committee appointed by the M. . W. . Grand Master to investigate the books and papers relative to lodges under dispensation, have the honor to report—

That upon a thorough examination of the books and returns, and having carefully examined into the proficiency and qualifications of the officers, as shown by the records of the several lodges applying for charters, and after having conversed with several well-informed brethren in reference to their prospects, the character of the material they have accepted, and their financial standing and prosperity, would respectfully recommend that charters be granted to the following named lodges:

Long Prairie, located at Long Prairie, Todd County;
Sincerity, located at Villard, Pope County;
Plymouth, located at Minneapolis, Hennepin County;
Summit, located at St. Paul, Ramsey County;
Prescott, located at Herman, Grant County;

on compliance with the requirements of the constitution of the Grand Lodge. Fraternally submitted,

P. B. DAVY,
C. A. ROY,
W. A. FOLAND,
Committee.

Adopted.

The Grand Lodge was called off until 2:30 o'clock P. M.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

JAN. 14, 1885, 2:30 o'clock P. M.

At the hour named the Grand Lodge resumed labor. Officers and members as at morning session.

RESOLUTIONS.

On motion of R. . W. . Bro. J. H. Brown (104), it was

Resolved, That the chairman of the Committee on Appeals and Grievances be, and he is hereby, authorized to appoint two members of his said committee who, with the said chairman, shall constitute a sub-committee of the said Committee on Appeals and Grievances, which said sub-committee is hereby authorized to convene and sit for the examination of such matters as are to come before the full committee at any communication of the Grand Lodge; that such sitting may be for such time as shall be necessary for the performance of its duties, not exceeding three days, and shall be held within ten days next prior to such Grand Communication.

Adopted.

On motion of R. . W. . Bro. Geo. A. Camp (2), it was

Resolved, That a special committee of three be appointed by the M. . W. . Grand Master, who shall examine all financial matters of this Grand Lodge and its officers, and all questions of dispute or in doubt of a financial character with the subordinate lodges, and report to the next Grand Lodge.

Adopted.

Presented by R. . W. . Bro. E. P. Barnum (60):

Resolved, That there be compiled, under the direction of the Grand Master, the resolutions now in force, and a sufficient number thereof be printed for the use of the subordinate lodges in this jurisdiction.

Referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence to report probable cost of such book.

COMMITTEE ON MASONIC JURISPRUDENCE.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota:

Your Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, having considered the resolution presented by Bro. Dickinson, providing that a Mason shall be refused a dimit until he has been elected in another lodge, which resolution was referred to us, beg leave to report:

First—That we do not believe that the preamble to that resolution recites a good reason for its adoption, because, if a Mason cannot, under our rules, which allow him to apply for membership anywhere, at any time, regain lodge membership, it must be for the reason that he is unworthy.

Second—That we recognize and approve the principles of modern Masonry and the regulations of this Grand Lodge, which make it the duty of every Mason to be a contributing member of some lodge, but prefer to believe that every Mason will discharge this duty voluntarily.

Third—That we believe that the true principle is, that membership in a particular lodge may, if the brother be not in arrears and not subject to discipline, be severed by him at his pleasure.

Your committee therefore recommends that the proposed regulation be not adopted.

Fraternally submitted,

C. H. BENTON,
E. W. DURANT,
H. R. WELLS,
CHAS. GRISWOLD,
GEO. W. PRESCOTT,
Committee.

Adopted.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON BY-LAWS.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota:

Your committee to whom was referred that portion of the Grand Master's address relative to uniformity of by-laws, would respectfully report that in their opinion it is desirable that the subordinate lodges should have some guide in framing the same, and that uniformity in the same, to a reasonable extent, would promote the interests of the craft. Therefore, your committee would offer the following resolution and move its adoption:

Resolved, That the M. W. Grand Master appoint a committee of three to draft a code of by-laws subject to the approval of the Grand Master, and that the same be incorporated in the report of the proceedings of this Grand Lodge for 1885—not as obligatory on the subordinate lodges, but simply as a guide.

C. S. ANDREWS,
J. P. DURFEE.

Adopted.

RESOLUTION.

Presented by Bro. W. G. Ten Brook (79):

Resolved, That the matter of difference between Palestine Lodge, No. 79, and Frontier Lodge, No. 152, with regard to a jurisdictional question, be referred to the Committee on Appeals and Grievances.

Adopted.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The hour having arrived, named as the special order,—the election of Grand Officers for the ensuing year,—the Grand Master appointed as tellers Bros. Alphonso Barto (60), C. C. Andrews (61), C. L. West (39).

M. . W. . C. H. Benton, presiding.

COMMITTEE ON RESIDUE OF ADDRESS.

Pending the count of ballots for Grand Master, the committee presented the following report:

To the M. . W. . Grand Lodge of Minnesota:

Your special committee to whom was referred the residue of the M. . W. . Grand Master's address, have to report as follows:

We congratulate the M. . W. . Grand Master upon the gratifying success and harmony of his administration the past year, as clearly evidenced by the details of his annual report, and we believe the pleasure he has experienced in his official intercourse with the officers and brethren of this jurisdiction has been reciprocal.

The close subdivision of the M. . W. . Grand Master's address leaves as a residue but little for us to amplify upon. We beg leave, however, to submit the following: We believe he has been wise in the exercise of his powers and prerogatives in regard to general and special dispensations, and most discreet in his correspondence. The caution with which he has dispensed privileges cannot be too highly commended, in our opinion, as we believe that this power vested in the Grand Master should be exercised only in the most conservative manner.

In his correspondence he has referred subordinate lodges generally to the fountain-head of information—the constitution of the Grand Lodge and the accumulated printed proceedings of the past—for a solution of

their inquiries. This we commend most emphatically, as we believe in them — extending over more than thirty years as they do — can be found ample instruction for almost all exigencies that may arise. We indorse this feature of the M. . W. . Grand Master's correspondence, believing that subordinate lodges do not always comply with the requirement that the proceedings of the Grand Lodge each year shall be read in full in every subordinate lodge; and we regard this course of the M. . W. . Grand Master as a very fitting reminder, if not, indeed, a deserved, though mild rebuke.

The efforts made by the M. . W. . Grand Master and his corps of deputies, in the interest of uniformity of work, we know to have been more earnest and effective than his own recital of them would convey.

In conclusion, we can but congratulate the Grand Lodge on the growth of Masonry in this jurisdiction the past year and the excellent state of the finances, in all of which we must recognize the influence of a faithful and efficient Grand Master.

All of which is fraternally submitted,

GEO. W. LAMSON,
W. T. RIGBY,
B. H. WHITNEY,
Committee.

Adopted.

GRAND MASTER.

The tellers announced that M. . W. . Bro. Henry R. Denny (111) had been re-elected Grand Master.

The M. . W. . Bro. C. H. Benton, presiding, requested P. . G. . Masters A. T. C. Pierson, Geo. W. Prescott, Chas. Griswold, and E. W. Durant to escort the Grand Master-elect into the lodge room.

Ballots were ordered for Deputy Grand Master.

WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' FUND.

Pending the count of ballots for Deputy Grand Master, R. . W. . Bro. W. T. Rigby (28) presented the following:

Resolved, That the sum of \$1,500 of the general fund of this Grand Lodge be appropriated to, and constitute a portion of, the Widows' and Orphans' Fund.

Adopted.

AMENDMENT TO REGULATIONS.

Bro. A. C. Dunn (27) offered an amendment to the regulations reducing the fees payable to the Grand Lodge for membership.

Referred to the Committee on Grand Treasurer's and Grand Secretary's Accounts.

The tellers announced that R. W. Bro. R. H. Gove (21) had received a majority of all the ballots cast for Deputy Grand Master, and he was declared elected.

Ballots ordered for

GRAND SENIOR WARDEN.

Pending the count of ballots, reports of

COMMITTEE ON APPEALS AND GRIEVANCES.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota:

Your Committee on Appeals and Grievances have had presented to them the proceedings of Benton Lodge, No. 146, in relation to the trial, conviction, and expulsion of Bro. John B. Russell, and find that no appeal has yet been taken, and that the time for such appeal has not yet expired.

Your committee therefore recommend that further consideration in relation to the subject be postponed until the meeting of the proper committee prior to the next Grand Communication.

Fraternally submitted,

JOHN H. BROWN,
DWIGHT M. BALDWIN,
ALBERT MARDEN,
E. E. CORLISS,
G. S. IVES,
Committee.

Adopted.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota:

Your Committee on Appeals and Grievances have had under consideration the matter of difference between Palestine Lodge, No. 79, and Frontier Lodge, No. 152, in relation to an alleged encroachment by the latter upon the territorial jurisdiction of the former lodge, and have to report that your committee have no facts before them warranting any action at the present time; that no charges have been preferred that

Your committee are therefore of the opinion that, for want of a proper charge and by reason of the irregularities above mentioned, the whole proceeding is so utterly nugatory as not to preclude further action in relation to the subject matter of what was intended to be charged, in the nature of a second prosecution, so to speak; and therefore recommend the adoption of the following resolution, viz.:

Resolved, That the action of Centennial Lodge, No. 127, expelling Bro. Fred A. Flood from all the rights and privileges of Masonry be, and the same is hereby, in all things *reversed*; but this reversal shall not preclude or prevent the said lodge from instituting proceedings anew upon proper charges, nor from prosecuting the same by regular proceedings to final determination.

Fraternally submitted,

JOHN H. BROWN,
DWIGHT M. BALDWIN,
ALBERT MARDEN,
G. S. IVES,
E. E. CORLISS,
Committee.

Adopted.

The tellers announced that Bro. J. A. Keister (57) had received a majority of the ballots cast, and he was declared elected Grand Senior Warden.

Ballots ordered for

GRAND JUNIOR WARDEN.

Pending the count, the Committee on Grand Treasurer's and Grand Secretary's books presented a report on amendment to Regulations on

REDUCTION OF FEES.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota:

Your Committee on Accounts and Finances, to whom was referred the resolution of Bro. Dunn, reducing the annual dues of members to twenty-five cents per annum each, find that the effect of said amendment would be to reduce the income of this Grand Lodge about \$2,200 per annum, and your committee are of opinion that the time has not yet arrived for so large a reduction, and your committee therefore offer the following substitute for the same:

Resolved, That section 82 of the General Regulations of this Grand Lodge be amended by striking out the words "every lodge shall pay for each of its members of one year's standing fifty cents," and inserting instead thereof, "every lodge shall pay for each of its members of one year's standing forty cents."

Respectfully and fraternally submitted,

W. F. DICKINSON,
C. L. WEST,
Committee.

Adopted by a two-thirds vote, as required by constitution.

SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON DUES OF LODGES U. . D. .

To the M. . W. . Grand Lodge of Minnesota:

Your committee to whom was referred so much of the Grand Master's address as relates to the payment of dues by members of lodges U. . D. ., would respectfully report that they have had the same under consideration, and would respectfully recommend the adoption of the following:

Resolved, That members of lodges in this jurisdiction who are working lodges U. . D. . shall be liable to the lodges of which they are members for the amount only of their Grand Lodge dues.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

C. W. RICKERSON,
P. D. VAUGHAN,
Committee.

Adopted.

ACT OF INCORPORATION.

On motion of R. . W. . Bro. E. P. Barnum (60), it was

Resolved, That Grand Master H. R. Denny, Bros. E. W. Durant, C. H. Benton, and W. D. Cornish constitute a committee to procure such legislation as they shall deem advisable in the matter of the revision and amending the act of 1853 purporting to incorporate the Grand Lodge of Minnesota, and as will best protect and promote the interests of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota and of the subordinate lodges incorporated under the act referred to.

PAY ROLL (Continued.)

NO.	REPRESENTATIVES.	MILEAGE.	PER DIEM.	TOTAL.	RECEIVED BY
125	Winslow Lewis.....	\$1.50	\$6.00	\$7.50	O. H. Brown.
126	Moorhead.....		6.00	13.00	R. Patterson.
127	Centennial.....	2.40	6.00	8.40	William Ray.
128	Josephus.....	6.00	6.00	12.00	E. M. Dyer.
129	Swift.....	10.00	6.00	16.00	W. A. Folland.
130	Arcturus.....	1.68	6.00	7.68	H. C. Hodgman.
131	Alma.....	5.90	6.00	11.90	A. O. Myhre.
132	Humboldt.....	2.10	6.00	8.10	F. L. Bradley.
133	Golden Sheaf.....	12.50	6.00	18.50	B. K. Rush.
134	Cokato.....	4.40	6.00	10.40	Frank Griffith.
135	Nelson.....		6.00	10.00	S. R. Wells.
136	Walnut.....				Not represented.
137	Appleton.....	7.70	6.00	13.70	L. A. Countryman.
138	Orion.....	6.70	6.00	12.70	E. A. D. Salter.
139	Verndale.....	11.50	6.00	13.50	Theo. Farington.
140	Little Falls.....				Not represented.
141	Crookston.....	23.40	6.00	29.40	W. M. Ross.
142	Currie.....	9.86	6.00	15.86	B. N. Whitney.
143	Lakeview.....	8.75	6.00	14.75	J. McCallum.
144	Bird Island.....	4.40	6.00	10.40	E. H. Keenan.
145	Melrose.....	8.50	6.00	14.50	N. M. Freeman.
146	Benton.....	9.55	6.00	15.55	Chas. M. Morse.
147	Canby.....	10.15	6.00	16.15	John Moore.
148	Quarry.....	10.05	6.00	16.05	C. C. Goodnow.
149	Guardian.....	3.15	6.00	9.15	A. L. Brown.
150	Warren.....	18.00	6.00	24.00	E. W. Rossman.
151	Chaska.....	1.75	6.00	7.75	C. A. Ramsdill.
152	Frontier.....				Not represented.
153	Kodahya.....				Rep. p. as Gd. Officer.
154	Norman.....	6.00	6.00	12.00	John Wright.
155	Tracy.....	8.45	6.00	14.45	W. M. Todd.
156	Wadena.....	14.50	6.00	20.50	H. F. Burch.
157	Perham.....	14.45	6.00	20.45	E. J. Frost.
158	Hector.....	4.05	6.00	10.05	Smith Dewees.
				\$1870.92	

PAY ROLL FOR DISTRICT DEPUTIES.

DIST. NO.	DISTRICT DEPUTIES.	MILEAGE.	PER DIEM.	TOTAL.	RECEIVED BY
5	C. W. Rickerson.....		\$6.00	\$6.00	C. W. Rickerson.
8	Thos. Montgomery.....	\$3.60	6.00	9.60	Thos. Montgomery.
9	D. E. Potter.....	3.65	6.00	9.65	D. E. Potter.
17	T. C. Bivins.....	11.20	6.00	17.20	T. C. Bivins.
		\$18.45	\$24.00	\$42.45	

Fraternally submitted,

J. H. THOMPSON,

E. W. ROSSMAN,

A. D. BOYCE,

Committee.

Adopted.

The tellers announced that Bro. Albert Marden (98) had received a majority of all the ballots cast, and he was declared elected Grand Junior Warden.

GRAND TREASURER.

Tellers announced that R. . . W. . . Bro. J. H. Thompson (19) had been re-elected Grand Treasurer.

GRAND SECRETARY.

Tellers announced that R. . . W. . . Bro. A. T. C. Pierson (5) had been re-elected Grand Secretary.

The Grand Lodge was called off until 8:30 o'clock P. M.

EVENING SESSION.

JAN. 14, 1885, 8:30 P. M.

The Grand Lodge resumed labor at the hour named. Officers and members as before.

EPISODE.

Having them arranged in front of the altar, the Grand Secretary informed the Grand Master that there stood before him, to testify to the Grand Lodge their unabated interest in the well-being of Masonry, all the Past Grand Masters residing in the jurisdiction, and with one exception all of those living, viz.:

A. T. C. Pierson, Geo. W. Prescott, Chas. Griswold, E. W. Durant, Henry R. Wells, and C. H. Benton.

Felicitous remarks were exchanged, as were the Grand Honors.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON GRAND TREASURER'S AND GRAND SECRETARY'S BOOKS.

To the M. . . W. . . Grand Lodge of Minnesota:

Your Committee on Grand Treasurer's and Grand Secretary's Accounts respectfully report that they have examined the reports, books and vouchers of the Grand Treasurer and find them correct.

The Grand Secretary has received from the subordinate lodges at this session, for dues, \$5,588.50, as appears by the abstract herewith, and he has paid the same over to the Grand Treasurer.

The balance in the treasury, as per Grand Treasurer's report.. \$6,412 09
Received from Grand Secretary for dues this session..... 5,588 50

Total.....\$12,000 59

The following lodges are delinquent for this year's dues:

Faribault, No. 9\$67 50*
Star, No. 62 14 50*
Little Falls, No. 140 38 50*
Long Prairie, U. . D. 19 00

The dues of Brownsville Lodge, No. 73, for 1883, do not appear to have been paid.

The charter fee for the two charters granted at the last session does not appear to have been paid. The Grand Secretary claims that the amount was included in the receipts for the last session. Your committee have not had time to examine and verify.

Fraternally submitted,

W. F. DICKINSON,
W. H. HALBERT,
C. L. WEST,
Committee.

Adopted.

APPROPRIATIONS—TODD'S DIGEST.

To the M. . W. . Grand Lodge of Minnesota:

Your Committee on Appropriations would respectfully recommend that the Grand Master be authorized to purchase, in his discretion, two hundred copies of Bro. Irving Todd's Digest of the Proceedings of this Grand Lodge for the use of the subordinate lodges, and the Grand Secretary be directed to send one copy thereof to each subordinate lodge.

Fraternally submitted,

H. R. WELLS,
E. P. BARNUM,
A. D. ROSS,
Committee.

Adopted.

*Paid since the close of the session.—GRAND SEC.

PAY OF DEPUTIES.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota:

Your Committee on Appropriations, to whom was referred the resolution regarding the paying of mileage and *per diem* to District Deputies, would respectfully report that they have had the same under consideration, and would recommend that, in view of the fact that some of the District Deputies are present at this session of the Grand Lodge who are not receiving pay as representatives of lodges, and may have come under the impression that under the resolution creating the offices of District Deputies they were Grand Lodge officers, and as such entitled to the same pay as other Grand Lodge officers, that such deputies as are present at this session shall receive the same pay as other Grand Lodge officers. We wish it, however, to be understood that we are not in favor of hereby establishing a precedent for future action, and are opposed to paying such officers in future for their attendance on the sessions of the Grand Lodge.

Fraternally submitted,

H. R. WELLS,
E. P. BARNUM,
A. D. ROSS,
Committee.

Adopted.

APPLICATIONS FOR RELIEF.

To the M. W. Grand Lodge of Minnesota:

Your Committee on Appropriations, to whom was referred the several applications for relief from the Widows' and Orphans' Fund, respectfully report that they have considered such matter, and recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the trustees of the Widows' and Orphans' Fund be directed to invest the same and report at each session of the Grand Lodge the amount of the proceeds arising therefrom, and that only such proceeds so arising be subject to distribution; that until such investment and report it is deemed inexpedient to make distribution from said fund.

Fraternally submitted,

H. R. WELLS,
E. P. BARNUM,
A. D. ROSS,
Committee.

Adopted.

RESOLUTION—CHARITY.

Presented by Bro. A. C. Dunn (37):

Resolved, That the following sums be appropriated out of the general funds of this Grand Lodge to the following persons, for the relief of the said persons:

For the relief of the widow and children of Bro. Lee Hensley, of the sum of one hundred dollars, to be disbursed to them by the W. . M. . of Libanus Lodge, No. 96.

To Bro. Lancaster, of Concord Lodge, No. 47, the sum of fifty dollars, to be disbursed through the W. . M. . of Concord Lodge, No. 47.

For the relief of the family of Bro. Hiram A. Mosher, deceased, the sum of one hundred dollars, to be disbursed under the direction of the W. . M. . of Tuscan Lodge, No. 77.

For the relief of the family of Bro. W. E. Sherman, deceased, the sum of one hundred dollars, to be disbursed under the direction of the W. . M. . of Doric Lodge, No. 87.

Adopted.

PHOTOTYPES OF P. . G. . M. .

Presented by Bro. I. L. Mahan (5):

WHEREAS, It is desirable and eminently fitting that the features of our Past Grand Masters should be preserved for the inspection of the craft in this jurisdiction, and to enable each lodge to have a copy in its archives; therefore

Resolved, That the Grand Secretary is hereby instructed to procure phototypes of the Past Grand Masters, to be inserted in the printed proceedings of this Grand Lodge, two each year, until all that can be procured are presented, and thereafter the one whose term of service has expired.

Resolved, That the sum of one hundred and twenty dollars, or so much thereof as may be necessary, be appropriated out of the general fund for carrying out the above resolutions each year.

Adopted.

GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS.

To the M. . W. . Grand Lodge of Minnesota:

Your Committee on Appropriations respectfully recommend the following appropriations, or as much thereof as shall be necessary, for the purposes indicated respectively:

For amount of pay roll, 1885.....	\$2,000 00
For expenses of the Grand Master.....	300 00
For Grand Secretary's salary.....	750 00
For A. T. C. Pierson, Chairman Com. on For. Correspondence.....	250 00
For Grand Tyler.....	25 00
For contingent expenses Grand Secretary.....	125 00
For proportion rent for Grand Secretary's office.....	162 50
For Thos. Montgomery, Assistant Secretary.....	25 00
For insurance Grand Lodge property.....	63 00
For printing Grand Lodge proceedings.....	600 00
For printing blanks for Grand Lodge returns.....	40 00
For deficiency expenses and <i>per diem</i> District Deputies.....	43 60
For Anoka Lodge, No. 30, Grand Lodge dues.....	73 50
For purchase of Todd's Digest, Regulations of Grand Lodge..	150 00
For Miss Lida Pierson, for writing up Grand Lodge records ...	250 00
To reimburse subordinate lodges for overpaid dues, as per	

SCHEDULE.

Evergreen, No. 46.....	\$1 00
Henderson, No. 80.....	1 00
Doric, No. 87.....	1 00
Lafayette, No. 116.....	2 00
Cokato, No. 134.....	1 00
Frontier, No. 152.....	2 00
Wadena, No. 156.....	2 00
	<hr/>
	10 00
For procuring photos. of P. . G. . Masters, as per resolution...	125 00
For expenses of the Grand Lodge, attending the funeral of P. . G. . M. . Cooley.....	193 00
For Widows' and Orphans' Fund.....	1,500 00
For relief of widows, as per resolution.....	350 00

Fraternally submitted,

H. R. WELLS,
E. P. BARNUM,
A. D. ROSS,
Committee.

RESOLUTION—THANKS.

Presented by R. . W. . W. T. Rigby (28):

Resolved, That the thanks of the Grand Lodge are hereby extended to those railroad companies which have so courteously made a reduction in the fare of the delegates in attendance on this session of the Grand Lodge.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Grand Lodge are hereby tendered to Minnesota Royal Arch Chapter, No. 1, for the use of the hall during the present session.

Adopted.

INSTALLATION.

The M. . W. . Grand Master-elect then announced the following appointments :

W. . Bro. GEORGE W. LAMSON (5).....Grand Orator.
 W. . Bro. R. E. ASHLEY (153).....Grand Chaplain.
 W. . Bro. LEVI FOLSOM (55).....Grand Senior Deacon.
 W. . Bro. ALPHONSO BARTO (60).....Grand Junior Deacon.
 W. . Bro. C. M. FOOTE (112).....Grand Marshal.
 W. . Bro. A. K. DOE (1).....Grand Standard Bearer.
 W. . Bro. F. A. NOBLE (48).....Grand Sword Bearer.
 W. . Bro. EBEN E. CORLISS (99).....Grand Senior Steward.
 W. . Bro. W. G. TEN BROOK (79).....Grand Junior Steward.
 W. . Bro. E. ROSSMAN (150).....Grand Pursuivant.

Past Grand Master Geo. W. Prescott, assisted by the Grand Marshal, proceeded to install the Grand Officers for the ensuing year, except the Grand Standard Bearer. It was ordered that he should be installed in St. Johns Lodge, No. 1.

The M. . W. . Grand Master announced as the special committees, as provided for by resolutions:

ON BY-LAWS.

M. . W. . C. H. Benton (2), M. . W. . Chas. Griswold (3), C. C. Brand (19).

ON FINANCES.

R. . W. . Geo. A. Camp (2), R. . W. . L. Z. Rogers (32), R. . W. . J. H. Thompson (19).

ON RETURNS.

Bros. A. La Due (11), W. F. Dickinson (99), Geo. S. Acker (5).

No further business appearing, the Thirty-second Annual Communication of the M. . W. . Grand Lodge of Minnesota was closed in AMPLE FORM, the Grand Chaplain officiating.

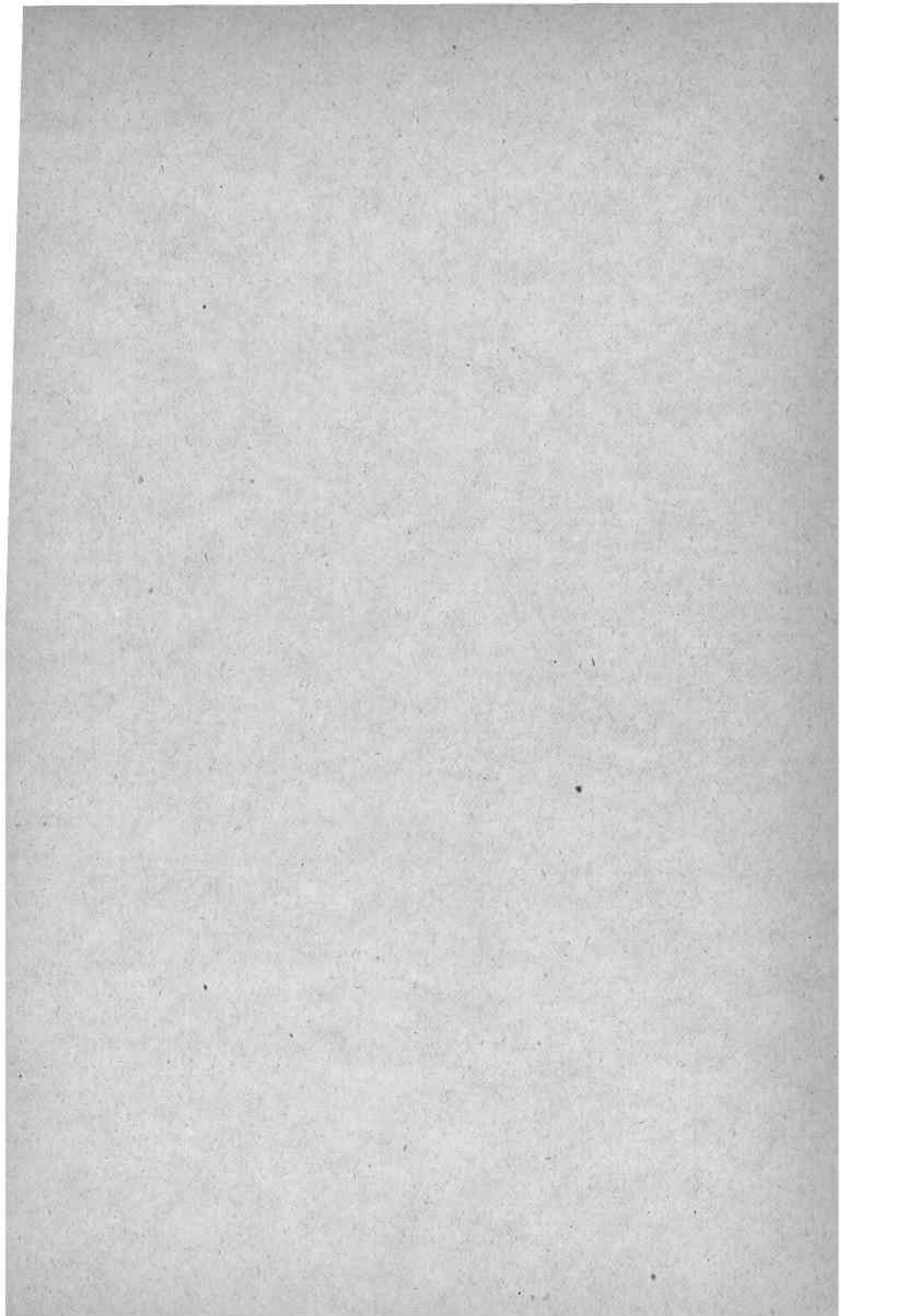
H. R. DENNY,
Grand Master.

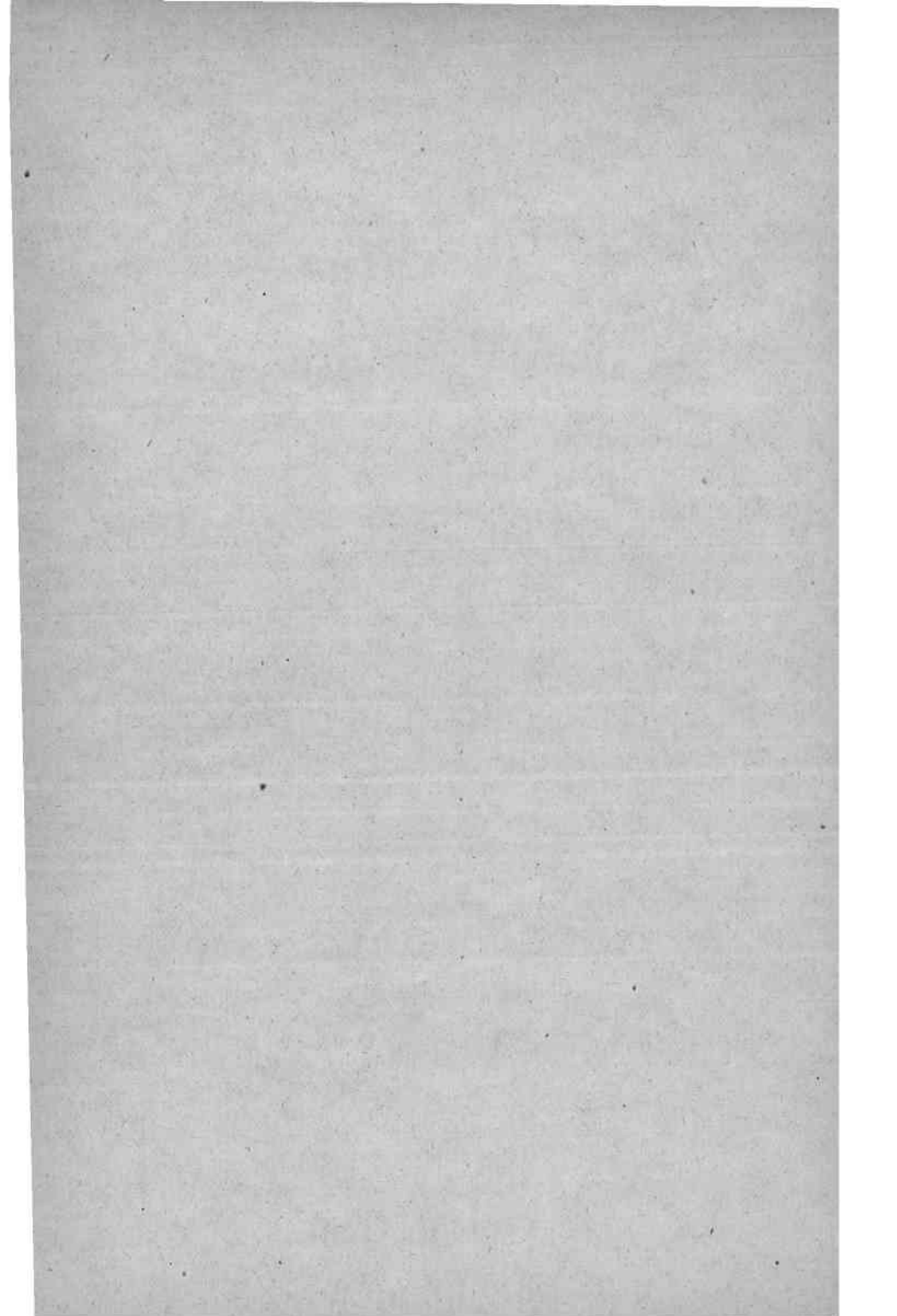
Attest:

A. T. C. PIERSON,
Grand Secretary.









APPENDIX.

APPENDIX

APPENDIX A.

ADDRESS OF R. W. J. A. KESTER, GRAND ORATOR.

Most Worshipful Grand Master, Grand Wardens and Brethren:

I appear before you this evening in the exercise of the distinguished and much appreciated privilege accorded to me through the kindness of the M. W. Grand Master—that of addressing the Grand Lodge of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons at the present Annual Communication.

Coming from a distant rural village, and unaccustomed to addressing assemblies so august as this, a body numbering among its members very many who are much superior to me in age, experience and Masonic knowledge, I speak with great diffidence and with much deference.

It is needless, perhaps, to remark that most Masonic subjects of importance have already been ably and elaborately discussed in all their phases, leaving but little, known to me at least, of substantial value, that is new, to present on an occasion like this, and I can at best but treat of that which is mainly elementary and commonplace.

There are, however, several subjects so immediately and plainly before us at this moment which are so worthy of at least brief consideration that, if nothing further should be said, should not go unnoticed. And, first, it may be observed that for many years past there have been in this State no public assemblages which, for numbers, talent, or representative character, can compare with the Grand Lodge of Masons assembled annually in this city. And this is a fact of great significance. Here at this hour are assembled divines, eminent for their eloquence and zeal. Here are judges of our courts of justice; lawyers, learned and of large practice; physicians of great skill and high repute; and professors from our colleges. Some are here, too, who have become noted in the walks of science and literature, and merchants, manufacturers, farmers, and mechanics. Here, too, are also officers of our State government and members of our State legislature, all having come up to the meeting of this Grand body to assist in its deliberations. And I venture the assertion that by no conceivable method of selection could a more truly representative, worthy or able body of men of the same numbers be chosen

had they been summoned here to decide the destinies of the State or the nation. We may say, also, that the members of this body have come here, many from great distances, leaving their private business and interests, their homes and families, to do the work here to be done, unselfishly and from a high sense of duty. And it is one of the honorable and characteristic features of our order that its great deliberative, governing bodies—notably this one—usually do their work and conduct their business without noise, parade or bombast, and with that dignity, decorum and harmony which should be expected of the representatives of an order so ancient and so honorable.

But how greatly is our field of vision extended, how grand a subject of contemplation presents itself, when we can declare, as we most truthfully can, that the remarks applicable to our own Grand Lodge are substantially correct when spoken in reference to the more than fifty other Grand Lodges of America, nay, of even all the Grand Masonic governing bodies found in all the civilized countries of the world!

And all this means something, brethren. The inference is unquestionable that the meetings of such bodies indicate some purpose or object worthy of consideration and of the highest respect, and this the world must acknowledge. And while we may not magnify ourselves, we may feel a just pride, from this view alone, of the grandeur, dignity and power of that fraternity of which we have the honor to be members.

A second subject worthy of brief notice, and one to which the M. . W. . Grand Master was pleased to allude, is the fact that this communication of our Grand Lodge is the thirty-second. Do we realize the fact that the third of a century has passed away since this lodge was established? It was on the twenty-third and twenty-fourth days of February, 1853, that delegates from three small lodges met in this city to institute this Grand Lodge, which organization has continued unbroken from that day to this, and here to-day are assembled the representatives of more than one hundred and fifty lodges. How true it is that the work which the founders did in that day was not for that time only, but also for the future, and it has continued growing, as a stream, wider and deeper as it moved on, until this day and hour in which we behold the magnificent results! And from hence we may learn the lesson, too, that the work which *we* are doing here to-day is not for this day alone, but may reach onward to the distant future.

The period which has elapsed since the establishment of this Grand Lodge has been one of wonderful events in the history of the world, and one of the grandest in the history of Masonry. And the thought, among others, presents itself right here: what must be the inherent strength of our institution, when, in this new land, where it has had to battle with many adverse circumstances, we find it to-day so strong, vigorous and progressive, and never more likely than it is to-day to live on and increase and to continue to spread its manifold blessings. And that surprising strength becomes still more evident when we consider for a

moment the numberless associations which during this period have arisen around us, flourished for a while, and gone down to oblivion.

There are, indeed, many societies which serve the purpose of a time, a locality, a temporary object, a certain class of people, but among them all Freemasonry appears to be the only one suited in its organization and genius to all times and countries and all classes of men. And here, at least, in this institution of Masonry, in the numberless changes in human affairs, is *stability*; and we may boldly assert from this fact alone that it is an institution which has that in it which men, aye, the world, wants; something in consonance with human nature and human need the world over. Yea, better still, something that meets the approval and indorsement of the civilization and advancement of this age; for it is in the most progressive, enlightened, nay, in the most Christian lands under the sun, as America, the British Empire, Germany, that Masonry is the strongest to-day.

But another thought comes to us here. We look over this great assembly and the inquiry presents itself, how many are here to-day who were present thirty-two years ago, at the organization of this Grand Lodge? How few, indeed! Many, having finished their work, have passed to the Silent Lodge. A few still remain to us, several of whom are here to-day, setting us the example of zeal and fidelity and aiding us with their counsel, the most distinguished of whom, perhaps, in the Masonic world, is he whose venerable form is still seen from year to year at the Grand Secretary's desk, and who, having long since reached and worthily held the highest honors of the order, is still everywhere a *master workman*.

Venerable brethren, in the final summing up of life's labors and achievements it will not be among the least of your worthy deeds that you have wrought in these quarries; that you have done somewhat in your day for Brotherly Love, Relief and Truth, and that you shall leave behind you something,—this Grand Lodge and its subordinates, scattered throughout this great commonwealth,—which shall continue to labor long after you have been gathered to the fathers, for fraternity, equal rights and justice among men; aye, for God and His laws, and His and their perpetual recognition.

Brethren, an occasional recurrence to the character and purposes of our order is beneficial in revealing to us our standing and our relations to the world around us. Could we all be brought to a full appreciation of the fact that it is one of the highest of honors to be a Freemason, and that, being such, we are in a position of great trust and responsibility, that this honor is one of which any man, whatever his station in life, should be justly proud, it would be well, not only for the order, but for the world. I am not given to panegyric, but I claim to have some just appreciation of that which is venerable for its age, useful in its purposes and grand in its achievements and destiny.

And, brethren, while I shall not attempt to treat of the antiquity of Masonry specially, I ask your forbearance for a few moments, as I have a purpose in view, while I refer briefly to certain facts which I think

worthy of some attention in this connection which are often overlooked. And, first, it may be said with truth that to the careful, impartial student the limitation of a century and a half, two centuries, even three, for the existence of this order, is a patent absurdity. We may admit that the old legends of Masonry, many of which have become obsolete, found in the old records and ancient constitutions of the order, as those of Lamech, Jabal, Tubal Cain, Nimrod, Enoch, the Noachidæ, Euclid, of Hiram Abiff, the Solomonic Temple, and others, are untrue and worthless as matters of Masonic history, yet the very fact of the creation of these legends, many of them so long ago, attempting to account thus for the origin of this order *then unknown*, indicates with some force that that origin may rest far back in antiquity. And who will explain to us with any degree of certainty what mean the clearly Masonic symbols and emblems which appear on ancient ruins, pyramids, monuments, obelisks, temples, both in the old and new worlds? Structures so old that the names of their builders are lost in the forgotten ages of the past. Brethren, these pyramids and ancient ruins have not yet given up their secrets.

And what mean the glimpses we get all along the track of history, at irregular intervals, from at least the seventh century before Christ, of strangely familiar institutions, and the occurrence of peculiar events, in relation to certain societies? Institutions which, in their organic character and purposes, are of startling identity with this order. We point with interest to the Roman colleges of architects; to the charter still in existence of the Madgeburg (Prussia) Masons, granted in the year 814 by the Emperor Charles the Second of Germany; to the great assembly of Masons at York (England) in the reign of Athelstan, in the early part of the tenth century; to the societies of Stone Masons, of the middle ages, with their signs, passwords and symbols; to the great assembly and reorganization of Masonic societies at Strasburg, in the year 1275; to the Traveling Freemasons, with their symbols, moral teachings and secrets; to the public acts of the British Parliament relating to certain secret societies, early in the fourteenth century; to Kilwinning Lodge (Scotland) of Ancient Craft Masons, existing in the early part of the fifteenth century; to the records of St. Mary's Lodge (Edinburgh, Scotland,) dated in 1598; to Plot's History of Staffordshire (England), published in 1686, in which he refers largely to Freemasonry; and, lastly, to the four old lodges of London, England, which took part in the organization of the Grand Lodge of England in 1717. And these references are but a tithe of the historic facts and events relating to this question which might be named in a proper review of the subject. And are not these the milestones which mark our marvelous march down through the centuries? And, in considering this subject, it must not be forgotten that changes in some features of a society, even of quite an important character, do not always end the existence of that society, destroy its identity or argue the beginning of a new institution. Finally, that this institution existed in much vigor in certain forms through the middle ages, when it took on slight modifications from

time to time, though always essentially the same, until finally, through a long course of evolution, it appeared at the revival of 1717, its operative feature eliminated, as Speculative Masonry, may at least be claimed with assurance. But the pathway of our history is broken and obscure, as might be expected of a secret institution, having but few written records. Masonry is indeed the anomaly of history, and so old, at least, that no historian, within or without the Order, friend or enemy, has ever been able to give a satisfactory date for its origin, and historian and biographer alike have strangely overlooked the order in the influences it has exerted upon public and private action. And this we do know, that we stand to-day, in the presence, and at this time are doing the work, of the oldest of merely human institutions, one which spans in age many of the centuries of the past as it will those of the future, all fanatical or other opposition to the contrary notwithstanding.

And now, brethren, I have referred thus briefly and imperfectly to the antiquity of our order, simply because I humbly think we should appreciate the importance of the fact, and ever realize the honor, of being members of so venerable an institution. But, brethren, the great age of a society, while it raises a very strong presumption of its usefulness, is not conclusive of that fact. The inquiries are indeed pertinent: why was the Order instituted, and what does it seek to accomplish? What excuse is there for its existence to-day, and is there aught in it of substantial value to the world and worthy the attention and labors of enlightened, practical men? Is there *anything* in it of special honor and distinction to its members? Allow me to attempt briefly the answer to these questions.

It is and always has been a plain as well as sad fact that differences in education, in religious and political opinions, differences in wealth, rank, race, color, race affinities, the boundaries of states and nations, apparently conflicting interests, all tend to divide men, create antagonisms, and cause them to forget that all men are in fact brethren, and have important rights and duties toward each other growing out of this relationship. The sad results are perpetual wars among nations, constant strife between localities, contention and wrong among individuals, and innumerable evils appearing on every hand. But it is elementary in our teachings that Masonry regards the whole human species as one family, the high and low, the rich and poor, who, as created by one Almighty Parent and inhabitants of the same planet, all partakers of the same nature and sharing the same hope, should aid, support and protect each other. Hence, Masonry seeks to unite men of every country, sect and opinion, and establish a universal brotherhood among them, upon a high plane of morality, agreement in sentiment, brotherly love, and sympathy.

And here we have the reason for the institution of this Order and something of its high purposes. And here we may confidently ask the philanthropist: is not such a society desirable in this wicked, warring world? We may ask him, too, if such objects, or purposes, are not among the noblest which can be entertained by enlightened men?

A society having such purposes must necessarily be organized upon a plane, or common ground of association, far above that field on which questions merely ecclesiastical or political array themselves and fight their battles. It must ignore all questions of mere state policy and economies, and all sectarian opinions and controversies, and must also present the principles of a universal code of duty and obligation, one that embraces rules and principles of belief and action upon which all men may agree. And all this Masonry does.

That the organization and continued existence of such a society is possible, Freemasonry stands to-day as the incontrovertible proof.

But, suggests the critic, are not the principles of such a society so superficial, so vague, or devoid of substance, as to be of no practical value?

We answer that Ancient Craft Masonry, which is not only the foundation, but also the superstructure, of Freemasonry, and is the only masonry of which I speak here, presents a definite code, not formulated as such indeed, but plainly embraced in its permanent teachings, embracing the primary and unchangeable principles of religion, of politics, of civil rights, of morality, of social and universal relations, and covering all of man's temporal rights, duties and interests.

This fact will become evident to the student of the teachings of Masonry who will take the trouble to codify them. He will discover a grand, definite and beautiful system, not, indeed, originated by Masonry, but one which Masonry has had the wisdom to adopt. And here we may challenge the philosopher, the moralist, within or without the Order, to test this declaration.

As it appears to be necessary to my purposes in these remarks, you will permit me the statement of a brief summary of the leading or salient principles of the Masonic code, and here we find, first:

Belief in God, who will reward virtue and punish vice.

Fraternity, or the brotherhood of men.

The obligation resting upon all men to obey the moral law.

The exercise of that toleration which grants to others the same right to entertain and express opinions which we claim for ourselves.

The equality of all men before God and in natural right and in the eye of the law, and the exercise of that liberty of action, opinion and speech, which, regulated by wise laws, is necessary to the pursuit of happiness.

The promotion of peace and the amicable adjustment by arbitration of all difficulties, state or individual, where possible, by mutual friends, instead of a resort to law or to arms.

Respect for and obedience to the civil government and the laws under which we live.

The cultivation and practical application of that broad charity which "thinketh no evil," and bestows upon the needy with open hand.

On such principles all men disposed to be just and inclined to peace, may unite and together work for the good of all. This institution does not build its platform of principles so high that none but such as are

already saints having wings can get up to it, nor so narrow that few can stand upon it when they get there, but it is made for mortal men, full of infirmities, and is broad and strong and may be reached by "all sorts and conditions of men" who are worthy and desire to be made wiser and better and do good to others.

And from all this it is seen that Freemasonry has not only the purpose of uniting men in a universal brotherhood above the boundaries of states, above sectarian creeds and political opinions, but by its teachings to develop and build up character in its members. It is designed to make men more manly, charitable, tolerant, temperate, full of fortitude, prudent in all things, just to all men, to fear God and love his fellow.

Is not such an institution worthy the respect, nay, of the labors, of intelligent men?

And in answering we need not forget or ignore that other kingdom on earth whose purposes are spiritual, — a kingdom higher, more extensive, more lasting, than any merely earthly empire, the kingdom of the soul, of divine origin, — the church of the living God. We, as well as others, know that when the true church with its sacred principles shall obtain universal dominion over the hearts and lives of men, there will then be no need for Masonry with its merely temporal objects, as there will then be no need for human governments, or human laws, or human associations of any kind.

But we must now take men and the world as we find them, not as we would have them, and we find unhappily that all men are not within that blessed fold, and the war of sects, the clashing of creeds and the fulmination of dogmas go on, and vice and ignorance and infidelity abound in the world, and the reunion of christendom delays, and the people, the great mass of the people as a body, as has been elsewhere well remarked, "with its multitudinous form, its gregarious instincts, its multitudinous strength, its aggressive ambition," its panics, its fevers, its delusions, its passions and prejudices, and which should be guided by the exercise of Christian principle in the daily life of the people, and within the pale of the church, is not so practically, except to a limited extent. In the meantime this old Order of ours, of merely human origin and purposes, working not on sectarian religious lines, not on political party lines, not on socialistic or communistic lines, but upon the fundamental and universally recognized principles of morality and justice, is seeking man's elevation, endeavoring to harmonize his conflicting interests and *helping in the moral government of the world*. And this it is doing without usurping the place of the church, without interference with it as has been falsely charged, but with the highest sympathy and affection for it, existing in tens of thousands of hearts, throbbing in the bosoms of those who are members of both the church and the Masonic order. And in this aspect of our order it should be remembered, too, that this society, making no pretense as to man's spiritual salvation, is also humbly *erecting altars throughout the world to the only true and living God* — the God of christendom. Altars where none may come but those who believe in and acknowledge Him; altars on which his pure Word, without note or com-

ment, lies forever open and free, the rule and guide of faith. Can such work be worthless? Should such high and noble purposes be forgotten by us, or be derided by our enemies? Should not all right thinking men rejoice in the existence of any and all institutions, secular as well as divine, that are laboring for man's elevation on any lines, breaking the chains of ignorance, oppression and degradation?

Oh, bigotry, intolerance, falsehood; when will ye cease preaching "the gospel according to satan?"

But we need not stop here in the argument that this order deserves the respect of the world, and I beg leave to refer now briefly to certain peculiar features of this society. An order so ancient as Masonry, having the designs and purposes of Masonry, and being so universal, must necessarily be peculiar in many respects, must differ in many features from most human organizations, and such is the fact. And here I shall say nothing of the peculiar ceremonies of Masonry, its universal language, its methods of teaching by symbols, hieroglyphics, allegories, traditions, and memorizing which make a peculiar and indelible impression upon the mind of the initiate—a system found in perfection nowhere else—nor need I suggest that its adaptability to all classes of men is such that it possesses a charm for even the mystic, the seer, the antiquary, as well as for the man of to-day, the moralist and the philosopher, but I may refer to plainer, more evident facts.

The institution is one of *fixed principles* and *disciplinary character*, yesterday, to-day, and forever the same. Its great leading principles are crystallized in *landmarks* and *ancient regulations*, which no power within or without the order can ever change. It is true a Masonic body may attempt it, but the only result is that it legislates itself out of the order; they cease to be Masons, but Masonry remains the same. Let us realize the great importance there is in this fact of permanence. An institution existing in every civilized land, maintaining unchangeably certain correct primary, moral, social and political principles, must, in the ever changing notions and vagaries of every age, be of inestimable value to the world.

To illustrate this tendency to change "these shifting sands of doctrine," in one aspect only, but an important one, you will permit me the remark that now, after the lapse of one, two or three centuries, nay, within fifty years, some of the religious denominations have added many new dogmas to the faith they once held, while some have lost sight of the distinctive principles, or peculiar doctrines, on which they were originally founded, and some have gone so far as not only to keep in silence and subordination, but to contradict those very original doctrines.

Our political, educational and social systems, too, are filled with new theories and radical changes, some of which are doubtless valuable and so far so good; but in all this we see, without any disposition to find fault or criticise, illustrated, this disposition to change, to drift away from former moorings; yet essential *truth, right, justice*, are unchangeable, and such are the principles of Masonry! Do we not want, in all this drifting and uncertainty, something permanent? Is it too much to say that in this institution we find it?

And in this peculiar age of individualism, irreverence, independentism, self-will, disregard of old, fundamental truth, religious dissensions and infidelity, in this age of nervous excitement, intense activities, waste of forces, and the headlong scramble for wealth, this old order which teaches, has always taught, always will teach the existence of God, the immortality of the soul, the obligations of the moral law, respect for and obedience to lawful authority, and plain and honest dealing between man and man, and prudence and moderation in all things; this order, I say, with such teachings and with its disciplinary influences upon the life and heart, of such age and dignity, existing in all lands, of such vast membership, embracing such wealth and intelligence, is necessarily of great value to society, *to the state, and of great power in the moral world*, and must in the very nature of things have done, though silently indeed, a great work for good, and has yet a great work to do, in the affairs and destinies of our race.

But we may take a step still higher and declare that from the unchangeable character of our order, Masonry is not only the steady teacher of its principles, but the preserver, the conservator, through all the chances and changes of time, of those very principles! Where will you find a higher office or more important trust than this?

And I must suggest that while Masonry encourages its members in the study of the sciences and in the acquisition of all useful knowledge, and has to-day among its membership many of the most distinguished men of science, it has no sympathy with that sceptical philosophy which, under the pretense of believing nothing or knowing nothing, obliterates the Deity from the universe, substituting for a living, ever present God and His creative power, unexplainable names and terms, dethroning intelligence in the creation, government and final disposition of all things.

And now I may ask, is there not great excuse for the existence of this order in this day and age, is there not need for its continuance? Do not good government, public order, aye, the old true faith of mankind, demand its assistance? Let the man of observation, research and intelligence answer these questions. Allow me now to allude briefly to certain other peculiar features of this order, some which in a great measure make Freemasonry the institution it is,—different from all others, *sui generis* indeed,—peculiarities in which lies the secret of much of its power and endurance, and I confess I enumerate them with great pride. This society, though of great age and of wide extent, has never given aid to despotism, in any of its forms, in church or state. It has never waged the wars of intolerance, in any age or country, nor has it ever waged war for any purpose; it is eminently the society of peace. It has never built the fires of religious or political persecution. And in language which I have elsewhere used, I add: "It has never enslaved or degraded the poor or helpless, nor has it ever dishonored itself in the face of the rich or great for their favor. It has never followed any fanatical ideas, whims or theories. It never dictates to anyone, raises no disputes and argues no questions, and lives in quietness and peace with all men; and with all this and unlike most other institutions, it asks no

favors or special privileges of church or state. It never proselytes, it sends out no missionaries, has no propagandists, and pays nothing for recruits," and while the worthy who knock at its doors are seldom denied, none are ever urged to seek admission.

And we now may add largely to all this when we assert, as we truthfully can, that while many great evils overshadow the world, one of the greatest, the saddest, the most confounding, perpetually weakening and distracting the best effort, is the antagonisms created by ignorance, bigotry, envy or jealousy, among the institutions really working to the same great end—the subduing of these evils—that Masonry, standing almost alone in the world, has no share in such jealousies, never creates or permits contentions with other societies, nor interference with their labors. It never anathematizes other societies nor excommunicates individuals. And all this summary of peculiar features I have named, not because they are new or novel here, but as tending to show the distinctive character of our order and how eminently worthy it is of our high esteem and the respect of the world.

But I call attention to still higher features of our order. Let the man who would view this old institution in its grandest character, and see the practical application of its principles, visit the schools, colleges, the widows and orphans homes and hospitals, erected and maintained by it in Europe and America! Let him estimate the vast sums contributed voluntarily, by Masons as such, to sufferers by fire and flood and pestilence, from year to year, given gladly and with unstinted hand! Let him sum up the aggregate value of the relief and charity funds held for disbursement by the order, amounting in this country alone to hundreds of thousands of dollars, and, what is still better, let him go to the homes of want, of sickness and suffering, over the land, and behold the quiet, unquestioning work of relief and attention ever going on, and of which the world knows nothing, because done on that Christian and Masonic principle, "Let not the left hand know what the right hand doeth, that thine alms may be in secret." Here, again, we call the philanthropist to answer the question, is not this worthy labor? And here the world may learn, if not elsewhere, one of the secrets of why Masonry has lived so long, why it should continue to live, and why it is not only worthy of the respect of the world, but also why it receives the attention and labors of hundreds of thousands of the wisest, most enlightened and most noble men of our race.

Let us now turn to another view of our subject and see what sanction or approval all this may have received.

It is indeed no idle boast, no empty delusion, that this grand old order has numbered among its members many of the most illustrious men of every age and land, scientists, poets, educators, scholars, heroes and statesmen, the friends of humanity, the workers for man's progress and happiness.

In our own country what a splendid galaxy of illustrious names may we point to, among whom are Washington, Benjamin Franklin, and many other signers of the Declaration, Warren and Putnam, and other

generals of the Revolution, Chief Justice John Marshall, De Witt Clinton, Jackson, Clay, and Garfield, besides hosts of others in all the walks of science, literature and human enterprise, and many thousands of the Christian ministry of almost all the denominations, and we may well feel proud that we are united by the mystic tie with such men, and co-workers with them.

And I cannot help remarking here how hideously imbecile is the charge, in the face of these grand facts, that Masonry is anti-republican, that it is anti-Christian. And now, may not the question be timely, is there not much in all this of special honor and distinction to every Mason? May not every Mason be justly proud that he is a Mason, and love and honor his Order? And every true Mason, whatever his station may be, does honor and love it. He reveres it because of its venerable character, its dignity and stability. He loves it because of the lessons of brotherly love and toleration and charity which it teaches. He honors it because of the great truths which it has preserved through centuries, and inculcates to-day. He respects it because of its lessons of peace and support of order and good government. He respects it because of the illustrious men in every age and country whose names are associated with it. He loves it because of the strong bonds of unity, sympathy and mutual interest it establishes among men. He loves it because of its grand, systematic and ever increasing work in the relief of human suffering. He loves it because, to-day, as always in the past, it is in full sympathy with the labors and best aspirations of men in everything that relates to the progress, improvement and elevation of our race.

But, brethren, I must detain you a few moments longer. This institution of ours, as you all know, notwithstanding its correct principles and laudable purposes, its unobtrusive and peaceful character, its far-reaching and harmonizing influences, has always, at least since the days of Samuel Pritchard, more than one hundred and fifty years ago, had its opponents; and I am sorry to say that as a rule its opponents have not been fair or candid, and their statements of the character and purposes of the society have often been exceedingly false and mendacious.

I may say that besides a number of candid and sincere persons who hold unfavorable opinions of our Order there are two extremes representing wholly different and antagonistic ideas and purposes and methods which hate Freemasonry. The one is found in those high, powerful and closely organized systems of despotism, the real spirit and purpose of which would, under various pretenses, divest man of his right to speak, think and act, except in certain prearranged channels, and make him a slave, submissive in body and soul, in life and labor, to a ruling few, in no way his superiors in natural right, intelligence or virtue, and which is forever promulgating principles, which grew as fungi, in the mental gloom of the world's night—the dark ages. And the opposition and unjust denunciation from this source arises from the fact, partially, that Masonry teaches equality, toleration, fraternity, but more particularly because Masonry as an institution is to-day one of the strongest

bulwarks against despotism in any and every form, and *an institution which no despotism, in either church or state, can control or use for its purposes*. And the world, though it may not always have known it, has always had great need for just such an institution.

The other extreme which hates Masonry is represented mainly by certain sporadic and ephemeral associations over the land, based on some one-idea principle, narrow minded, and pursuing their hobbies with rancor, always fanatical, always vociferous, forever crying "Lord! Lord!" and under the livery of an assumed sanctity presuming to judge the world and all that therein is from the elevation of an ant hill. Both these extremes, with startling travesties of the truth, and with arguments which in the light of facts apparent to all the world are a shame to the human understanding, belabor Masonry right and left. And, strange as it may seem, these extremes hate each other as they hate Masonry, and more strangely still, Masonry takes no note of and cares nothing about either of them.

But, brethren, should we not after all be thankful for the remorseless criticism, the unmerciful opposition to which the order has been subjected? It is a well known fact that where the meetings of the opponents of Masonry have been held to denounce or expose the Order, as they claim, there the number of applicants for admission to the Order has generally increased; and so patent is this fact, and so often observed, that we can truly say our enemies do indeed "build better than they know," or intend. But this is the least benefit we receive from this opposition. We are taught thereby to observe more closely the teachings of our Order, that we become not obnoxious to these objections; but, over and above all, this opposition but serves to lay bare and expose to the world the grand, the everlasting foundations on which Freemasonry rests.

And now may I not say that the thought of our responsibility under God to our Order and to humanity, and the great trust in our keeping is one of the greatest we can entertain, if we but fully realize its import. We must know that our individual being is bound up with each other by the most sacred ties, and to the world around us, in the force of example and the influences we exercise. And, so far as we are true to our Order and its high purposes, "we are warranted in looking upon ourselves as co-laborers, though humble, indeed, with the Supreme Architect, the builder of all worlds."

And I apprehend that Freemasonry, in all its branches, has an immeasurably larger work to do in the future than it has had in the past, and there never was an era in its history when it was so well prepared for a great work. I am no alarmist, nor would I proclaim danger when none is nigh, yet there are many sober, thoughtful men, men who closely observe the signs of the times, as well as certain sensationalists, who hold that it is very probable, at least, that a great crisis of some kind in human affairs is not distant. What may be the character or proportions of such impending crisis we are not told with much definiteness, but we may conjecture what may, perhaps, be one of its features. We know

from some very late developments that despotisms of all kinds are growing uneasy, because they cannot live in the light, the progress and the national liberty of this nineteenth century. And these powers of intolerance, self-aggrandizement and arbitrary rule are preparing, it is thought, for some final conflict to retrieve the lost ground, or for the supremacy of the world. In such a crisis where would the members of this grand old Order be found, with their labors, influences and sympathies? Might not the world then learn at least one reason why this order has lived and wrought and taught? It would indeed not be the only instance in the world's history in which there has quietly and unostentatiously grown, in the great laboratory of human events, the antidote to great evils. It is little to say that Masons, as such, are with the principles of William the Silent of Orange and George Washington, rather than with those of Philip the Second of Spain and George the Third of England. In the day of these men, and in the events of their time, was illustrated the fact that the side of right, though apparently the weaker, may triumph over the side of wrong through some mysterious providence which baffles and defeats the most consummate and adroit statesmanship, and the most skillful, heroic and patient generalship of the powers of despotism. Oh, humanity! Could ye but know the glorious deeds that have been, silently and unknown, wrought for you in the world's upward and onward progress through the centuries!

But it is evident that there is much work to be done for humanity, without waiting for any great crisis in human affairs. A hasty glance over the world reveals a sad condition, notwithstanding our very just boasts of great progress and high civilization, and the glorious triumphs of the Cross.

Let us face the truth. The great majority of mankind are yet but political slaves! Gigantic standing armies are eating out the substance of nations. Great fleets of iron-clad men of war prowl over the high seas, and vast fortresses frown along the borders of all lands. War still devours whole kingdoms at a meal. Intemperance in every land sinks its hundreds of millions of dollars annually, and fills the land with widows and orphans and beggary, and stocks the earth with drunkards' graves. On the one hand great organizations of Anarchists parade the streets of the large cities of this, the freest land under the sun, proclaiming doctrines subversive of all property rights, of social order, and of civil government itself. On the other hand, great monopolies and moneyed corporations, soulless, grasping and insolent, are absorbing the earnings and property of myriads of people. And it is possible for an individual, who never contributed a dollar to the real wealth of the country, or did aught for the nation, for science or humanity, to amass a fortune of many millions in a single lifetime.

Crime still pours its ceaseless stream through all the earth, and gloomy prisons rear themselves on every hand, and ignorance and superstition and bigotry still exist; while the gaunt victims of disease, misery and destitution are marching in a procession of millions to untimely graves! All these things teach us that the world's night has not yet passed away,

and though the dawn has begun to break, there is much to be done before the full morning cometh. And in the work of lifting these evils from our race, our share, *not as an order*, indeed, but as men who are Masons, with the teachings of Masonry in our hearts, is a very large one. And how shall we be prepared to do our part? By making the teachings of Masonry what they were intended to be—*practical*. Not with new methods, but by a recurrence and strict adherence to the principles and methods already taught us. For if there be such a thing as a new or modern Masonry, with new principles, as distinguished from an older system, the old Masonry is the better. And we need no noise, no proclamations, no great announcements, for such things are inimical and strange to Masons, for the dominion of the principles of Masonry, like those of a higher and holier kingdom, "Cometh not with observation."

Faithful to our great trust and work in the onward progress of the world, then as humanity in the past has been blest by our labors, so shall the generations to come, everywhere, rejoice in the beneficence of Freemasonry.

APPENDIX B.—GRAND OFFICERS.

ELECTIVE GRAND OFFICERS OF THE G. L. OF MINNESOTA, FROM ITS ORGANIZATION IN 1853 TO THE PRESENT TIME.

YEAR.	GRAND MASTER.	No. Lodge.	DEPUTY G. M.:	No. Lodge.	SENIOR G. W.:	No. Lodge.	JUNIOR G. W.:	No. Lodge.	G. TREASURER.	No. Lodge.	G. SECRETARY.	No. Lodge.
1853	A. E. Ames	2	A. Goodrich	3	D. F. Brawley	3	A. Van Vorhest	1	E. Caser	2	I. G. Lennon	2
1854	A. E. Ames	5	D. F. Brawley	3	A. Van Vorhest	1	A. T. C. Pierson	5	E. Caser	4	H. Reynolds	4
1855	M. Sherburne	5	A. T. C. Pierson	2	C. T. Starns	2	A. Van Vorhest	5	E. Caser	4	H. Reynolds	4
1856	A. T. C. Pierson	5	H. N. Setzer	6	Thomas Lombard	4	E. A. Hodgson	7	E. Caser	4	H. Reynolds	4
1857	A. T. C. Pierson	5	Wm. H. Mower	1	E. A. Hodgson	4	William Lee	4	E. Caser	4	H. Reynolds	4
Jan. — 1858	A. T. C. Pierson	5	D. B. Loomis	1	Frank Mantor	11	A. C. Smith	3	E. Caser	4	Geo. W. Prescott	4
Oct. — 1858	A. T. C. Pierson	5	D. B. Loomis	1	Samuel E. Adams	16	J. C. Whipple	9	E. Caser	19	Geo. W. Prescott	19
1859	A. T. C. Pierson	5	D. B. Loomis	1	L. E. Thompson	11	C. W. Thompson	16	E. Caser	19	Geo. W. Prescott	19
1860	A. T. C. Pierson	5	D. B. Loomis	1	J. C. Whipple	9	W. T. Rigby	34	E. Caser	19	Geo. W. Prescott	19
1861	A. T. C. Pierson	5	J. C. Whipple	9	E. C. Wells	21	George Bradley	34	E. Caser	19	Geo. W. Prescott	19
*1863	A. T. C. Pierson	5	L. E. Thompson	1	C. H. Lindsay	31	A. B. Curry	33	E. Caser	19	Geo. W. Prescott	19
1864	A. T. C. Pierson	5	P. P. Hubbell	1	G. B. Cooley	11	A. J. Phelps	40	George L. Oist	5	U. W. Carpenter	5
1865	Geo. W. Prescott	5	W. T. Rigby	18	Robert Stewart	31	S. R. Merrell	49	George L. Oist	5	U. W. Carpenter	5
1866	Charles W. Nash	35	R. A. Jones	21	S. R. Merrell	49	S. V. Hyde	49	George L. Oist	5	U. W. Carpenter	5
1867	Charles W. Nash	35	R. A. Jones	21	S. R. Merrell	49	S. V. Hyde	49	George L. Oist	5	U. W. Carpenter	5
Jan. — 1869	Charles W. Nash	35	G. B. Cooley	11	S. V. Hyde	49	Fred. Joss	8	George L. Oist	5	U. W. Carpenter	5
1870	Charles W. Nash	35	C. C. Griswold	49	E. D. B. Porter	12	J. W. Morford	33	George L. Oist	5	U. W. Carpenter	5
1871	Charles W. Nash	35	C. C. Griswold	49	J. N. Castle	79	E. P. Barnum	58	George L. Oist	5	U. W. Carpenter	5
1872	G. B. Cooley	11	J. N. Castle	1	Edgar Nash	79	L. B. Cummings	38	George L. Oist	5	U. W. Carpenter	5
1873	C. Griswold	49	J. N. Castle	1	Edgar Nash	79	L. B. Cummings	38	George L. Oist	5	U. W. Carpenter	5
1874	C. Griswold	49	J. N. Castle	1	Edgar Nash	79	L. B. Cummings	38	George L. Oist	5	U. W. Carpenter	5
1875	C. Griswold	49	J. N. Castle	1	Edgar Nash	79	L. B. Cummings	38	George L. Oist	5	U. W. Carpenter	5
1876	C. Griswold	49	J. N. Castle	1	Edgar Nash	79	L. B. Cummings	38	George L. Oist	5	U. W. Carpenter	5
1877	C. Griswold	49	J. N. Castle	1	Edgar Nash	79	L. B. Cummings	38	George L. Oist	5	U. W. Carpenter	5
1878	C. Griswold	49	J. N. Castle	1	Edgar Nash	79	L. B. Cummings	38	George L. Oist	5	U. W. Carpenter	5
1879	C. Griswold	49	J. N. Castle	1	Edgar Nash	79	L. B. Cummings	38	George L. Oist	5	U. W. Carpenter	5
1880	C. Griswold	49	J. N. Castle	1	Edgar Nash	79	L. B. Cummings	38	George L. Oist	5	U. W. Carpenter	5
1881	C. Griswold	49	J. N. Castle	1	Edgar Nash	79	L. B. Cummings	38	George L. Oist	5	U. W. Carpenter	5
1882	C. Griswold	49	J. N. Castle	1	Edgar Nash	79	L. B. Cummings	38	George L. Oist	5	U. W. Carpenter	5
1883	C. Griswold	49	J. N. Castle	1	Edgar Nash	79	L. B. Cummings	38	George L. Oist	5	U. W. Carpenter	5
1884	C. Griswold	49	J. N. Castle	1	Edgar Nash	79	L. B. Cummings	38	George L. Oist	5	U. W. Carpenter	5
1885	C. Griswold	49	J. N. Castle	1	Edgar Nash	79	L. B. Cummings	38	George L. Oist	5	U. W. Carpenter	5

† Expelled.

† Deceased.

* No session of the Grand Lodge in 1862 or 1868.

ABSTRACT OF RETURNS—Continued.

No. of Lodge.	NAME OF LODGE.	REDUCTIONS.				ADDITIONS.					Fees and Dues.	Starting No. for next Report.
		Withdrawn.	Stricken from Roll.	Suspended or Expelled.	Died.	Initiated.	Passed.	Raised.	Adjoined.	Restored.		
69	Mystic Star.....	1			1	3	2	2			24.50	39
71	Paynesville.....	1				3	3	2			25.50	37
72	Lansing.....	1									8.00	16
73	Brownsville.....	1				1					7.00	12
75	Eureka.....	1			1	3	2	3			28.50	45
76	Joppa.....		S. 1			1	1	1	1		16.00	28
77	Tuscan.....				1	3	5	6	3		51.00	81
79	Palestine.....	1			1	3	1	1	3		36.00	110
80	Henderson.....				1	3	1	1	3		26.00	46
81	Constellation.....	2				3	5	6	2		50.00	78
82	Howard.....		5			3	3	3	2		24.00	55
83	Huram Abl.....	1			3	4	4	3			36.50	62
84	Orient.....	3				4	4	3			21.50	26
85	High Forest.....	1	2			7	5	3		1	35.00	35
86	Tyrian.....	3				2	2	2	1	1	35.00	64
87	Doric.....	5	4			7	7	5			41.50	55
89	Golden Fleece.....	4			1	8	11	11			91.50	134
90	Good Faith.....	4		S. 1		2	2	2	1		17.50	26
91	Antiquity.....	3			1	4	3	3	2		35.50	58
92	Fraternal.....				2	1	1	2			31.00	60
93	Unity.....	4	1		1	1	1	1		1	21.00	40
94	Keystone.....	7				8	8	7			47.00	58
95	Sherburne.....					5	4	5	1		39.00	55
96	Libanus.....	1	1			1	1	1	1		20.50	41
97	Prudence.....	1				2	2	2			31.50	53
98	Charity.....	1			1	2	2	1			24.00	49
99	Corner Stone.....	1			2	12	11	14	8		77.00	105
100	Aurora.....	1		Ex. 1		17	13	12	6		75.50	86
101	Fraternity.....	3			1	4	3	2	3		35.50	58
102	Lebanon.....	2				1	1	1			18.00	32
103	Bethel.....					2	2	1	1		15.00	22
104	Sharon.....	1		S. 1		5	4	3			32.00	45
106	Mount Tabor.....	4	7			4	2	3	1		21.50	31
108	Relief.....	1	S. 3								28.50	57
109	Sunset.....	2				7	3	3	1		47.00	74
110	Pickwick.....				1	3	3	4			28.50	43
111	Carver.....	1			1	3	1	1			24.00	21
112	Khurum.....	2	1		3	26	30	29	33	5	185.00	262
113	Excelsior.....				2	2	1	1	1		19.00	32
114	Ben Franklin.....	2	2			7	8	6	2		45.50	57
115	Elgin.....	1				4	4	4			37.00	54
116	Lafayette.....	3				4	5	6			31.00	40
117	Granite.....	3				6	6	6	1		35.00	41
118	Newport.....	3			1	3	2	2	2		12.00	16
119	Delta.....	3			1	3	8	6	4		35.00	46
121	Grand Meadow.....	1				1	1	1			18.00	29
122	Kellogg.....					2	3	3			20.00	27
123	Prairie.....	2				3	3	3			30.00	38
124	Janesville.....	1			2	5	5	5	1		17.00	35
125	Winslow Lewis.....	1									21.50	21
126	Moorhead.....	1			1	1	1	2	2		13.00	29
127	Centennial.....	1	1			2	4	3	1		21.50	29
128	Josephus.....	1				1	1	1			20.50	36
129	Swift.....		1			1	1	1			14.50	26
130	Areturus.....	2	1			3	3	2			29.00	43
131	Alma.....	1	S. 5			2	2	2			17.50	25
132	Humboldt.....					3	3	4			21.50	51
133	Golden Sheaf.....	3				3	3	3	1		31.50	51
134	Cokato.....	2				1	1	1			12.50	20
135	Nelson.....										10.50	23
136	Walnut.....	3				3			1		10.50	18

ABSTRACT OF RETURNS—*Concluded.*

No. of Lodge.	NAME OF LODGE.	REDUCTIONS.				ADDITIONS.					Fees and Dues.	Starting No. for next Report.
		Withdrawn.	Stricken from Roll.	Suspended or Expelled.	Died.	Initiated.	Passed.	Raised.	Adjoined.	Restored.		
137	Appleton	1				5	8	8	7		36.50	50
138	Orion		2			1	6	6	6		38.50	28
139	Verndale				1	2	2	2	2		17.50	27
140	Little Falls					11	9	8	5		38.50	35
141	Crookston	2				3	5	8	3		48.50	76
142	Currie				1	5	3	4	1		21.50	30
143	Lakeview	2				5	6	6	2	2	40.00	58
144	Bird Island		2			6	7	7			29.00	27
145	Melrose	1				2	2	3			20.50	29
146	Benton	3				5	4	4			23.00	24
147	Canby					4	4	4			27.50	35
148	Quarry	1				3	3	3	2		22.50	34
149	Guardian	2						1			9.00	17
150	Warren					5	3	3			24.00	29
151	Chaska				2	4	3	3			19.00	21
152	Frontier	1		1		3	4	3	1		18.50	21
153	Kodahya					5	2	2	1		21.00	27
154	Norman	1		Ex. 1		1		1			12.00	22
155	Tracy	2				4	2	2	5		17.00	26
156	Wadena	1				4	3	2	2		21.50	29
157	Perham	5				5	6	6	2		22.50	21
158	Hector	2				5	5	5			20.00	15
	Long Prairie, U. D.					8	6	6			19.00	
	Plymouth, U. D.					8	6	6			20.00	
	Sincerity, U. D.					14	13	12			39.00	
	Prescott, U. D.					3	2	1			6.00	
	Summit, U. D.					5	3	3			11.00	

RECAPITULATION.

Total number lodges enrolled.....	163
Total number lodges working.....	149
Charters granted this session.....	4
Withdrawn.....	288
Stricken from roll.....	146
Suspended.....	14
Expelled.....	2
Died.....	76
Total decrease.....	526
Initiated.....	606
Passed.....	596
Raised.....	600
No. degrees conferred.....	1,802
By initiation.....	600
Affiliated.....	157
Restored.....	36
Total increase.....	793
Increase during the year.....	267
Total membership.....	8,677

APPENDIX D.—DIRECTORY OF SUBORDINATE LODGES.

No.	NAME.	LOCATION.	W. MASTER.	SENIOR WARDEN.	JUNIOR WARDEN.	SECRETARY.
1	St. Johns.....	Stillwater.....	A. K. Doe.....	Wm. M. May.....	Wm. E. Gove.....	T. H. Warren.
2	Cataact.....	Minneapolis.....	Chas. D. Boyce.....	W. H. J. Parson.....	W. P. Washburn.....	Solon Armstrong.
3	Henepun.....	St. Paul.....	Joseph P. Race.....	Chas. E. Brunson.....	E. A. Randells.....	A. W. Martenson.
4	Henepun.....	Minneapolis.....	Jacob Braver.....	Albert Lawrence.....	W. P. Roberts.....	Wm. Gunderson.
5	Ancient Landmark.....	St. Paul.....	Isaac E. Manan.....	Geo. S. Ackert.....	Thomas L. Kerf.....	Wm. Dampier.
6	Dakota.....	Hastings.....	Nathan Emerson.....	A. E. Rich.....	W. W. Wechs.....	Julius Fause.
7	Red Wing.....	Faribault.....	Geo. W. Baldwin.....	H. A. Willard.....	H. P. McIntire.....	Chas. L. Davis.
8	Faribault.....	Faribault.....	Geo. W. Andrews.....	John Van Saun.....	J. L. Levi.....	Elford S. Bassett.
9	Faribault.....	Faribault.....	A. T. Die.....	Wm. H. Edson.....	A. A. Culve.....	R. Mautor.
10	Mankato.....	Mankato.....	W. S. Howe.....	J. W. Andrews.....	G. W. Mead.....	P. W. Pitcher.
11	Wapahaska.....	Wapahaska.....	Chas. J. Stauff.....	John H. Mullin.....	Chas. C. Hirschy.....	Julius Schmidt.
12	Monticello.....	Monticello.....	Wm. Lossing.....	J. M. Comerford.....	Daniel Mast.....	Frank McDonald.
13	Hokah.....	Hokah.....	E. D. Hubert.....	L. V. Keeler.....	J. J. Brooks.....	A. J. Snure.
14	Minneapolis.....	Minneapolis.....	Chas. C. Brand.....	L. J. Hilmer.....	C. C. Clement.....	J. K. Ferguson.
15	Caledonia.....	Caledonia.....	P. A. Pope.....	Wm. D. Peet.....	Sam'l S. Kilvington.....	Jas. M. Williams.
16	Pleasant Grove.....	Pleasant Grove.....	A. L. Gove.....	Wm. H. Knapp.....	M. M. Woodin.....	Hudson Wheaton.
17	Rochester.....	Rochester.....	George Logan.....	Jas. Edmundson.....	A. T. Stebbins.....	C. A. Whited.
18	North Star.....	St. Cloud.....	A. L. Crand.....	W. D. Taylor.....	W. L. Pattison.....	R. D. Hathaway.
19	Wilton.....	Wilton.....	Edward Burling.....	Geo. T. Gardner.....	Frank Tolman.....	C. W. Kingsbury.
20	Western Star.....	Albert Lea.....	J. Q. Annis.....	George O. Learned.....	Dan'l J. Bickford.....	S. W. Lockwood.
21	Blue Earth Valley.....	Winchgo City.....	Andrew C. Dunn.....	E. P. Crossman.....	F. W. Barlow.....	S. S. Edwards.
22	Clear Water.....	Clear Water.....	Joseph Whittenore.....	Elshia Eddy.....	Francis A. Molyneux.....	Edward A. Hotchkiss.
23	Morning Star.....	La Crescent.....	G. W. Boynton.....	Reynolds Kemp.....	W. V. Davis.....	W. T. Rigby.
24	Anoka.....	Anoka.....	Henry O. Hilton.....	Elisha Eddy.....	Frederick Welch.....	H. D. Gurley.
25	King Hiram.....	Irden.....	R. H. McClelland.....	M. A. Larson.....	Frank E. Abear.....	Oscar D. Cutter.
26	Sakiah.....	Waterville.....	Frank Touseley.....	Daniel C. Potter.....	John W. Callender.....	W. H. Baier.
27	Star in the East.....	Wadena.....	Henry Birckett.....	N. C. Larson.....	Robt. C. Philbrick.....	Alex. Kenrick.
28	Orient.....	Canton Falls.....	Chas. Parks.....	Silas S. Lewis.....	C. W. Burdick.....	H. H. Luers.
29	Mt. Moriah.....	Hastings.....	Wm. Hodgson.....	Wm. H. De Kay.....	Joseph H. Metz.....	John A. Wilson.
30	Preston.....	Preston.....	Geo. W. Hard.....	Geo. A. Love.....	H. J. Brokmeire.....	James W. White.
31	Mystic Tie.....	Concord.....	Geo. W. Swarthout.....	Ezekiel L. Swarthout.....	W. W. Foote.....	O. H. Jacobson.
32	Washington.....	Concord.....	Hiram W. Severn.....	Denison B. York.....	Chas. L. Parham.....	John L. Bowman.
33	Fidelity.....	Austin.....	Joseph Adams.....	W. A. Avery.....	Leonard Spriter.....	M. W. Severus.
34	Carnelian.....	Lake City.....	J. W. Kennedy.....	Ira D. Warren.....	Wm. Todd.....	Lynan D. Baird.
35	Hermion.....	Zumbrota.....	Chas. E. Johnson.....	F. J. Jolus.....	E. J. Manning.....	A. Wells.
36	Hope.....	Glencoe.....	Bradbury Richardson.....	H. L. Simons.....	R. S. Hall.....	H. E. Talmadge.
37	Harmony.....	Lewiston.....	Isaac C. Slade.....	C. D. Jacobs.....	R. S. Miles.....	M. Thoeny.
38	King Solomon.....	Shakopee.....	H. J. Peck.....	M. H. Manson.....	J. E. Soboliski.....	O. W. Hunt.
39					J. W. Seencerbox.....	J. A. Wilder.

DIRECTORY OF SUBORDINATE LODGES. — *Concluded.*

No.	NAME.	LOCATION.	W. MASTER.	SENIOR WARDEN.	JUNIOR WARDEN.	SECRETARY.
139	Verndale.....	Verndale.....	Theo. Farrington.....	A. A. Brown.....	J. R. Williams.....	C. Ditmore.
140	Little Falls.....	Little Falls.....	L. G. Worthington.....	A. T. Storey.....	J. W. Berg.....	Lynan Signer.
141	Crookston.....	Crookston.....	Wm. M. Ross.....	Wm. F. Zwickey.....	Albert C. Cowing.....	Geo. H. Bucknau.
142	Currie.....	Currie.....	B. H. Whitney.....	L. G. Gates.....	J. A. Maxwell.....	H. C. Grass.
143	Lakeview.....	Ortonville.....	John McCallum.....	John Grippin.....	J. Van Allen.....	F. M. Grant.
144	Bird Island.....	Bird Island.....	E. H. Kecuan.....	Adelbert E. Cook.....	Jas. W. Ladd.....	
145	Melrose.....	Melrose.....	J. E. Campbell.....	N. M. Freeman.....	H. C. Maguire.....	E. E. Clark.
146	Benton.....	Lake Benton.....	Andrew F. Schauble.....	John H. Manchester.....	Chas. M. Morse.....	John L. Cass.
147	Canby.....	Canby.....	John Moore.....	James E. Adams.....	Langford Summets.....	John P. Arnott.
148	Quarry.....	Pinestone.....	C. C. Goodnow.....	Riley French.....	E. W. Davis.....	N. F. Phillips.
149	Guardian.....	Brown.....	Alonzo L. Brown.....	Chas. W. Sney.....	Christian Etter.....	Hubert R. Bartlett.
150	Warren.....	Warren.....	Wm. C. Odell.....	P. L. Stickney.....	W. H. Gilbert.....	R. H. Folwell.
151	Chaska.....	Chaska.....	Peter Hanson.....	Chas. A. Ramsdill.....	Edwin A. Taylor.....	Gustav Kravenhull.
152	Frontier.....	Breckenridge.....	E. Ashby.....	Wm. L. Pitkin.....	Joel L. Cameron.....	Wm. M. James.
153	Kodakva.....	Ada.....	C. H. Brown.....	John C. Wright.....	J. W. Frazier.....	B. F. Ashelman.
154	Norman.....	Tracy.....	N. M. Todd.....	J. D. Owens.....	Fred. T. Koyl.....	H. W. Barrall.
155	Wadena.....	Wadena.....	Edgar S. Case.....	Mark J. Katzekey.....	F. S. Brown.....	N. J. Richard.
156	Perham.....	Perham.....	Emert J. Frost.....	Chas. H. Tuesley.....	Frank B. Coon.....	Frank C. Field.
157	Hector.....	Hector.....	Smith Dewees.....	Chas. H. Nixon.....	Morris Herschler.....	C. D. C. Williams.
158	Long Prairie.....	Long Prairie.....	Willard Gutches.....	Geo. N. Bressler.....	Edgar E. Cook.....	Wm. C. White.
159	Plymouth.....	Minneapolis.....	Wm. H. Mills.....	Geo. R. Chipman.....	Martin Rodman.....	John H. Sheets.
160	Sincerity.....	Villard.....	Chas. W. Brown.....	Wm. Canfield.....	A. W. Henkle.....	G. Eberhard.
161	Prescott.....	Herman.....	E. W. Snyder.....	Rufus P. Wells.....	James E. Stalker.....	P. Hoffman.
162	Summit.....	St. Paul.....	Robert E. Ware.....	R. A. Lampher.....	N. E. Ufford.....	P. H. Clague.
163					John A. Berkey.....	Fred. S. Swisher.

APPENDIX E.

SUMMARY OF LODGES BY COUNTIES.

COUNTIES.	LODGES.	No. of Lodge.	LOCATION.
Anoka	Anoka	30	Anoka.
Becker	Mount Tabor.....	106	Detroit.
Benton	Unity.....	93	Sauk Rapids.
Big Stone.	Lake View.....	142	Ortonville.
Blue Earth.....	{ Mankato	12	Mankato.
	{ Joppa	76	Garden City.
	{ Bethel	103	Lake Crystal.
	{ Josephus	128	Mapleton.
Brown.....	{ Keystone.....	94	Sleepy Eye.
	{ Charity.....	98	New Ulm.
	{ Watertown.....	50	Watertown.
Carver	{ Carver	131	Carver.
	{ Humboldt.....	132	Norwood.
	{ Chaska	151	Chaska.
Canby.....	Canby.....	147	Canby.
Chippewa	Sunset	109	Montevideo.
Chisago	Zion.....	55	Taylor's Falls.
Clay.....	Moorhead.....	126	Moorhead.
Cottonwood.....	Prudence	97	Windom.
Crow Wing.....	Aurora.....	100	Brainerd.
Dakota	{ Dakota	7	Hastings.
	{ Mount Moriah.....	35	Hastings.
	{ Corinthian.....	67	Farmington.
	{ Mantorville.....	11	Mantorville.
Dodge	{ Washington.....	38	Concord.
	{ Hiram Abi.....	83	Kasson.
	{ Relief	108	Dodge Centre.
Douglas.....	Constellation.....	81	Alexandria.
Faribault	{ Blue Earth Valley.....	27	Winnebago City.
	{ Blue Earth City.....	57	Blue Earth City.
	{ Doric	87	Wells.
	{ Preston.....	36	Preston.
Fillmore.....	{ Meridian	56	Chatfield.
	{ Spring Valley.....	58	Spring Valley.
	{ Mystic Star.....	67	Rushford.
	{ Lebanon	102	Lanesboro.
Freeborn.....	{ Western Star.....	26	Albert Lea.
	{ Red Wing.....	8	Red Wing.
	{ Arcturus	130	Red Wing.
Goodhue.....	{ Oriental	34	Cannon Falls.
	{ Mystic Tie.....	37	Pine Island.
	{ Hermon	41	Zumbrota.
Grant	Prescott.....	162	Herman.

APPENDIX F.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FORM FOR BY-LAWS, RECOMMENDED TO
THE LODGES AS A STANDARD, SUBMITTED TO THE GRAND
MASTER AS PER RESOLUTION.

BY-LAWS

—OF—

LODGE, No.

A. F. & A. M.

ARTICLE I.

THE LODGE—ITS TITLE AND MEETINGS.

SECTION 1. The name and title of this lodge is "..... Lodge,
No., Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Minnesota."

SEC. 2. The authority of this lodge is a charter granted on the
..... day of, A. D. 18..., by the Most Worshipful
Grand Lodge of Ancient Free and Accepted Masons of Minnesota, to
whose constitution, rules and edicts the most implicit respect and
obedience shall ever be paid by the members of this lodge.

SEC. 3. The stated communications of this lodge shall be held on
the..... of each month. The hour of meeting shall be at.....
o'clock P. M.

SEC. 4. Special communications may be called by the W. M. at
his pleasure.

ARTICLE II.

RULES OF ORDER AND ORDER OF BUSINESS.

SECTION 1. The order of business at stated communications shall
be as follows, subject to the will of the W. M.:

1. Reading minutes of last stated and all intervening communica-
tions.

2. Petitions for relief.
3. Petitions for degrees and membership.
4. Reports of committees.
5. Balloting on petitions.
6. New business.
7. Unfinished business.
8. Work.
9. Reading and approval of minutes of present communication.

SEC. 2. All business of the lodge must originate, and be transacted at stated communications of the lodge, except for the burial of the dead and dispensations of charity.

SEC. 3. The rules of order at all communications shall be these by-laws, the constitution, rules and edicts of the M. . W. . Grand Lodge, the ancient constitutions and Masonic usages.

SEC. 4. A majority vote shall decide all questions not otherwise provided for.

SEC. 5. At special communications the degrees may be conferred, charity may be dispensed, funerals may be attended and provided for, discussions may be had upon matters appertaining to or affecting the interests of Masonry; but no other business shall be transacted except permission to transact it be given by the M. . W. . Grand Master, or the M. . W. . Grand Lodge of Minnesota.

ARTICLE III.

MEMBERSHIP.

SECTION 1. The members of this lodge are those charter members who were duly named as such when the lodge was constituted; all who have received or shall receive the degree of Master Mason herein, (except those, if any, upon whom the degrees were conferred for a sister lodge,) and those, previously not affiliated, who have been duly admitted to membership herein. All who are now members shall immediately sign these by-laws, and in the future all who become members shall immediately thereafter sign the same.

SEC. 2. A dimit shall be granted to any member of this lodge upon his written application for the same, *Provided*, His dues to date have been paid; and *Provided, further*, That he is not under charges for any unmaasonic conduct.

SEC. 3. No officer of this lodge shall be dimitted during the term of office for which he shall have been elected or appointed.

ARTICLE IV.

OFFICERS—THEIR ELECTION AND DUTIES.

SECTION 1. The elective officers of this lodge are W. . M. ., S. . W. ., J. . W. ., Treasurer, and Secretary, who shall be elected by bal-

lot on the.....stated communication in....., annually; and a majority of all the votes cast shall be necessary to a choice.

SEC. 2. The W. . M. . elect shall appoint the following officers immediately after his election, or before the officers elect are installed: Senior Deacon, Junior Deacon, Senior and Junior Stewards, Chaplain, Organist, Marshal, and Tyler.

SEC. 3. The installation of the officers shall take place as soon as practicable.

SEC. 4. The W. . M. ., S. . W. . and J. . W. . are a standing committee on charity, whose duty it shall be to attend to the necessities of members of this lodge, their widows and orphans; and they are hereby authorized to draw on the funds of the lodge for any sum not exceeding five dollars at any one time, for charitable purposes.

SEC. 5. The W. . M. . shall appoint, after his installation, a finance committee, consisting of three members, who shall examine the books and vouchers of the Treasurer and Secretary from time to time, and shall make a detailed report in writing of the financial affairs of the lodge at the.....stated communication in....., annually. They shall also examine all bills and demands against the lodge, and report in writing on the same.

SEC. 6. The duties of the W. . M. . shall be such as are traditionally appropriate to his office, and set forth in the constitution of the M. . W. . Grand Lodge of Minnesota, the ancient constitutions of the craft, Masonic usages, and the unwritten work of the craft.

SEC. 7. In the absence of the W. . M. . the S. . W. . succeeds to his office and duties, and in the absence of the W. . M. . and S. . W. ., the J. . W. . succeeds.

SEC. 8. The Treasurer shall receive all moneys from the Secretary, receipting for the same, and pay them out upon the order of the lodge, the drafts to be signed by the W. . M. . and attested by the Secretary, with the seal of the lodge. He shall prepare a correct detailed statement of his official account with the lodge and submit the same to the lodge at the last stated communication in....., annually. He shall deliver to his successor in office all books, papers and information in his possession concerning the financial condition of the lodge, and shall pay over to his successor, after he has been installed, all moneys belonging to the lodge.

SEC. 9. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to keep the records, and record all proceedings of the lodge proper to be written; to receive all moneys in behalf of the lodge, and pay them over to the Treasurer, taking his receipt for the same; to attest all orders of the lodge upon the Treasurer after they have been signed by the W. . M. .; to make out all reports to the M. . W. . Grand Lodge; and, at the close of his official term, submit a full report in writing of all moneys received and orders drawn on the treasury.

SEC. 10. The Tyler shall take care of the jewels, furniture and regalia; serve all notices required by the W. . M. .; open and close the lodge room, and have the same properly warmed and lighted; and tye

the lodge at all its communications ; and for his services he shall receive not to exceed.....for each meeting at which he tyles.

ARTICLE V.

PETITIONS, BALLOTING, ADVANCEMENT, DISCIPLINE, AND APPEALS.

SECTION 1. All petitions for membership and degrees must be in writing, stating age, occupation and nativity, and must be signed with the full name of the applicant. If for membership, the petition must also state the lodge of which he (the petitioner) was last a member. Each petition must contain the names of two Master Masons who are members of the lodge, and who recommend the applicant as a suitable person for membership or to receive the degrees. If no objection be raised, the petition shall be received and referred to a committee of three, who shall examine into the character or Masonic standing of the applicant and report at the next stated communication of the lodge, unless they ask and are granted further time by the W. ., M. .

SEC. 2. An applicant for membership shall not be present during the time that the lodge is balloting upon his petition.

SEC. 3. Should an applicant for the degrees be rejected, the deposit fee shall be returned to him ; should he be elected and fail to avail himself of the election for six months, unless for good and sufficient reasons the lodge has previously extended the time, he shall not be entitled to the degrees, and the proceedings had shall be ineffective, leaving him at liberty to apply again.

SEC. 4. All balloting on petitions for membership or degrees must be by secret ballot, and it shall require a unanimous vote to elect.

SEC. 5. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to forthwith inform a petitioner for membership or degrees of his election or rejection.

SEC. 6. Every member of the lodge present at the time the ballot is spread shall vote.

SEC. 7. Neither the second nor third degree shall be conferred until the applicant shall have proved his proficiency by examination in the preceding degree in open lodge.

SEC. 8. Trials, and the charges incidental to the same, shall be in accordance with the constitution of the M. . W. . Grand Lodge of Minnesota, and the rules and edicts which may have been or shall be laid down by that M. . W. . Grand Body, and in accordance with the ancient constitutions and usages of Masonry. A notice of appeal to the Grand Lodge, by a member of this lodge under sentence, must be in writing, addressed to the W. . M. ., Wardens and brethren, and deposited with the Secretary at least thirty days previous to the annual communication of the Grand Lodge.

SEC. 9. If the charges, or any part thereof, be sustained, the W. . M. . shall pronounce at once the sentence of reprimand, suspension or expulsion, in accordance with the verdict of the lodge ; and in all cases of suspension or expulsion the Secretary shall, without delay, give notice thereof to the Grand Secretary.

ARTICLE VI.

FINANCIAL.

SECTION 1. The fees of this lodge shall be as follows :

With petition.....	.....
For degree of Entered Apprentice.....	.....
For degree of Fellow Craft.....	.....
For degree of Master Mason .....	.....

SEC. 2. The dues of this lodge shall be.....dollars per year for each member, payable.....

SEC. 3. All brethren who may be, or have been, elected honorary members of this lodge, shall be exempt from dues ; and the lodge may at any stated communication, by a two-thirds vote of the members present, relieve any poor brother, who is unable to pay his dues, from paying the same, but such exemption does not absolve the lodge from the payment of Grand Lodge dues.

SEC. 4. Any member in arrears for dues more than two years may be stricken from the roll in the manner prescribed by the M. . W. . Grand Lodge.

ARTICLE VII.

AMENDMENTS.

SECTION 1. The whole of these by-laws, or any portion thereof, may be amended, or others substituted in their stead, at any stated communication ; *Provided*, That the constitution of the M. . W. . Grand Lodge of Minnesota, the ancient constitutions of the order, the landmarks of Masonry, and well-established Masonic usages, are not infringed ; and *Provided further*, That all proposed amendments and substitutes shall be proposed in writing at a stated communication, read in open lodge, and laid over one stated communication before a vote of the lodge shall be taken on their adoption, and a two-thirds vote of the members present shall be necessary to adopt such amendments or substitute ; *Provided further*, That no amendment shall take effect until approved by the M. . W. . Grand Master.

APPENDIX G.

DISTRICT DEPUTIES.

Districts are hereby established and Deputies appointed therefor as follows:

FIRST DISTRICT.

R. W. J. B. LAMBERT (35), HASTINGS.

St. Johns, No.....	1	Acacia, No.....	51
St. Paul, No.....	3	Golden Rule, No.....	65
Ancient Landmark, No.....	5	Newport, No.....	118
Dakota, No.....	7	Summit, No.....	163
Mount Moriah, No.....	35		

SECOND DISTRICT.

R. W. C. M. FOOTE (112), MINNEAPOLIS.

Cataract, No.....	2	Excelsior, No.....	113
Hennepin, No.....	4	Winslow Lewis, No.....	125
Minneapolis, No.....	19	Plymouth, No.....	160
Zion, No.....	55	Jasper.....	U. S. D.
Khurum, No.....	112		

THIRD DISTRICT.

R. W. J. T. COLGROVE (28), CLEAR WATER.

Monticello, No.....	16	Paynesville, No.....	91
Clear Water, No.....	28	Sherburne, No.....	95
Anoka, No.....	30	Nelson, No.....	135

FOURTH DISTRICT.

R. W. ALPHONSO BARTO (60), SAUK CENTRE.

Star in the West, No.....	60	Melrose, No.....	145
Constellation, No.....	81	Long Prairie, No.....	159
Corner Stone, No.....	99	Sincerity, No.....	161
Moorhead, No.....	126		

FIFTH DISTRICT.

R. W. C. W. RICKERSON (82), HOWARD LAKE.

Watertown, No.....	50	Golden Fleece, No.....	89
Star, No.....	62	Centennial, No.....	127
Howard, No.....	82	Cokato, No.....	134

SIXTH DISTRICT.

R. W. W. A. FOLAND (129), BENSON.

Sharon, No.....	104	Orion, No.....	138
Swift, No.....	129	Frontier, No.....	152
Golden Sheaf, No.....	133	Kodahya, No.....	153

SEVENTH DISTRICT.

R. W. ALBERT MARDEN (98), NEW ULM.

Antiquity, No.....	91	Walnut, No.....	136
Keystone, No.....	94	Benton, No.....	146
Charity, No.....	98	Canby, No.....	147
Delta, No.....	119	Tracy, No.....	155

EIGHTH DISTRICT.

R. . W. . THOS. MONTGOMERY (54), ST. PETER.

Mankato, No.....	12	Madelia, No.....	66
Union, No.....	45	Henderson, No.....	80
Concord, No.....	48	Josephus, No.....	128
Nicollet, No.....	54		

NINTH DISTRICT.

R. . W. . ROBERT H. McCLELLAN (31), JORDAN.

Wilton, No.....	24	Tuscan, No.....	77
King Hiram, No.....	31	Carver, No.....	111
Sakatah, No.....	32	Janesville, No.....	124
Cannon River, No.....	52		

TENTH DISTRICT.

R. . W. . L. A. HANCOCK (8), RED WING.

Red Wing, No.....	8	Carnelian, No.....	40
Wapahasa, No.....	14	Pickwick, No.....	110
Winona, No.....	18	Kellogg, No.....	122
Morning Star, No.....	29	Arcturus, No.....	130

ELEVENTH DISTRICT.

R. . W. . C. S. ANDREWS (61), EYOTA.

Harmony, No.....	43	Ashlar, No.....	61
Evergreen, No.....	46	Illustrious, No.....	63
Rising Sun, No.....	49	High Forest, No.....	85
Meridian, No.....	56	Elgin, No.....	115

TWELFTH DISTRICT.

R. W. J. E. GETMAN (108), DODGE CENTRE.

Mantorville, No.....	11	Herman, No.....	41
Rochester, No.....	21	Huram Abi, No.....	83
Pleasant Grove, No.....	22	Tyrian, No.....	86
Mystic Tie, No.....	37	Relief, No.....	108
Washington, No.....	38		

THIRTEENTH DISTRICT.

R. W. W. W. HARRIES (20), CALEDONIA.

Hokah, No.....	17	Mystic Star, No.....	69
Caledonia, No.....	20	Brownsville, No.....	73
Preston, No.....	36	Orient, No.....	84
Spring Valley, No.....	58	Lebanon, No.....	102

FOURTEENTH DISTRICT.

R. W. C. A. ROY (75), LE ROY.

Fidelity, No.....	39	Lafayette, No.....	116
Lansing, No.....	72	Grand Meadow, No.....	121
Eureka, No.....	75	Alma, No.....	131

FIFTEENTH DISTRICT.

R. W. P. B. DAVY (57), BLUE EARTH CITY.

Western Star, No.....	26	Joppa, No.....	76
Blue Earth Valley, No.....	27	Doric, No.....	87
Blue Earth City, No.....	57	Good Faith, No.....	90
Chain Lake, No.....	64	Bethel, No.....	103

SIXTEENTH DISTRICT.

R. W. J. M. BURLINGAME (33), OWATONNA.

Faribault, No.....	9	Social, No.....	48
Star in the East, No.....	33	Corinthian, No.....	67
Oriental, No.....	34	Prairie, No.....	123

SEVENTEENTH DISTRICT.

R. W. THOMAS C. BIVINS (100), BRAINERD.

Aurora, No.....	100	Warren, No.....	150
Mount Tabor, No.....	106	Norman, No.....	154
Verndale, No.....	139	Wadena, No.....	156
Crookston, No.....	141	Perham, No.....	157

EIGHTEENTH DISTRICT.

R. W. GEORGE MIX (132), WACONIA.

Hope, No.....	42	Humboldt, No.....	132
King Solomon, No.....	44	Guardian, No.....	149
Temple, No.....	59	Chaska, No.....	151

NINETEENTH DISTRICT.

R. W. A. D. COUNTRYMAN (137), APPLETON.

Sunset, No.....	109	Lake View, No.....	143
Granite, No.....	117	Bird Island, No.....	144
Appleton, No.....	137	Hector, No.....	158

TWENTIETH DISTRICT.

R. . W. . JAMES L. HELM (114), LUVERNE.

Libanus, No.....	96	Ben Franklin, No.....	114
Prudence, No.....	97	Currie, No.....	142
Fraternity, No.....	101	Quarry, No.....	148

TWENTY-FIRST DISTRICT.

R. . W. . A. L. CRAMB (23), ST. CLOUD.

North Star, No.....	23	Unity, No.....	93
Palestine, No.....	79	Little Falls, No.....	140
Fraternal, No.....	92		

Deputies will observe the resolution of the Grand Lodge, adopted 1874, found on page 36, and 1884, page 39, of the printed proceedings of those years.

H. R. DENNY,
Grand Master.

APPENDIX H.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

To the M. : W. : Grand Lodge of Minnesota :

The Chairman of the Foreign Correspondence Committee fraternally presents the following as his annual report. The transactions of the Grand Lodges for the years hereinafter named have been received, and the examination has been attended with great pleasure and no little profit.

Covering, as the proceedings of the Grand Lodges do, thousands of pages, containing emanations from the most learned and brilliant Masonic minds of the age, it becomes a very difficult matter to make selections, and in making up reports it takes more time to decide what to omit than it does what to present to the reader, and yet confine the report within reasonable limits.

In the present age, to be a successful master of a lodge one must have knowledge beyond the mere rituals; he should be able to expound the laws governing the craft, and the whys and wherefores. To furnish information is the passport of Foreign Correspondence reports, containing, as they usually do, a brief of the action of Grand Lodges, decisions on questions of law and usage, opinions of eminent writers on the different phases of questions discussed in Grand Lodges, etc., gathered from sources to which but comparatively few have access. These reports are presented year after year, and, if preserved, as they should be, the Masonic inquirer can find in them references to all the questions that come up in the government of a lodge.

We regret that the list of Grand Lodges is not full, although Delaware alone is missing.

Alabama.....	December, 1884	Manitoba.....	February, 1884
Arkansas.....	November, 1884	New Hampshire.....	May, 1884
Arizona.....	November, 1884	New Jersey.....	January, 1884
British Columbia.....	June, 1884	New York.....	June, 1884
Connecticut.....	January, 1884	North Carolina.....	January, 1884
California.....	October, 1884	Nebraska.....	June, 1884
Colorado.....	September, 1884	Nevada.....	June, 1884
Canada.....	July, 1884	New Mexico.....	December, 1883
Dist. Columbia.....	November, 1884	Nova Scotia.....	June, 1884
Dakota.....	June, 1884	New Brunswick.....	April, 1884
Florida.....	January, 1884	Ohio.....	October, 1883
Georgia.....	October, 1884	Oregon.....	June, 1884
Indiana.....	May, 1884	Pennsylvania.....	December, 1884
Illinois.....	October, 1884	Prince Edwards Island...	June, 1884
Iowa.....	June, 1884	Quebec.....	January, 1884
Idaho.....	September, 1884	Rhode Island.....	May, 1884
Indian Territory...	November, 1884	South Carolina.....	December, 1883
Kentucky.....	October, 1884	Tennessee.....	November, 1884
Kansas.....	October, 1884	Texas.....	December, 1884
Louisiana.....	February, 1884	Utah.....	November, 1884
Maine.....	May, 1884	Vermont.....	June, 1884
Massachusetts.....	December, 1883	Virginia.....	December, 1884
Maryland.....	May, 1884	Wisconsin.....	June, 1884
Michigan.....	January, 1884	Washington Territory...	June, 1884
Missouri.....	October, 1884	West Virginia.....	November, 1884
Mississippi.....	February, 1884	Wyoming.....	October, 1883
Montana.....	October, 1884		

Pursuing the alphabetical arrangement, we commence with

ALABAMA—1884.

The Sixty-fourth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Alabama was held at Montgomery, December 1, 2 and 3, 1884.

M. . W. . John H. Bankhead, G. . M. ., presiding.

One hundred and ninety lodges represented.

Four hundred and thirty-six on the roll.

Five dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

Of candidates, in his address, the G. . M. . says:

Every one offered should be hewn from the finest Parian marble, because our Order is in no sense of the word an institution organized for the purpose of reforming men; and I greatly fear that some are influenced to seek admission within our portals from selfish purposes, believing, perhaps, that they themselves will be benefited, rather than

a desire to benefit others. No man is fit to be made a Mason until his desire to do good to others exceeds his own selfish designs. I am firmly of the opinion that the Masonic fraternity in this jurisdiction is to be congratulated on the fact that none but the best men are now being received; and while it may appear that Masonry is languishing in Alabama, it is really but the evidence of greater caution and a more rigid examination of the lives and characters of those who knock at the door for admission.

And this as to regular meetings:

What are our regular meetings for? What do we accomplish, and how are we benefited, and the cause of Masonry advanced, unless we enter into the real spirit of Masonry? The lodge that meets is called to order and opened by the Master, the minutes of the former communication read, does its routine work and closes, has accomplished very little. No Master should ever close his lodge without strict inquiry if any of the brethren are sick or in distress. If so, measures of relief should be inaugurated. Are the widows and orphans of deceased Masons properly cared for? if not, provide the means by which the broken heart may be healed, and suffering relieved. What are your charity committees doing? Let them report at every communication how they have performed their work. Discuss the ways and means as to raising a charity fund, and how best to dispense so as to accomplish the greatest amount of good. Practice charity, brethren, the greatest of all virtues.

“If the poor man pass thy door,
Give him of thy bounteous store;
Give him food and give him gold,
Give him shelter from the cold;
Aid him his lone life to live,
For 'tis angel-like to give.”

The report of the Committee on Chartered Lodges is very full and complete, noticing the errors in the returns of each subordinate. It could be wished that the committee of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota would follow the example. It would have a strong tendency to induce secretaries to take more care in the preparation of returns.

The report upon Foreign Correspondence, from our old friend Palmer J. Pillans, embraces a well digested review of the proceedings of each of the American Grand Lodges except New Mexico.

Under the head of Arkansas, as to dimits, we find:

20. A vote authorizing the granting of a dimit does not constitute a dimittal. If, therefore, a brother who has been voted a dimit desires to remain a member of the same lodge, the lodge, at any time previous to the actual issuance of the dimit, can by a simple vote continue the brother a member. But after the dimit has been actually executed and delivered the brother cannot become a member of the lodge without a regular application and affiliation.

Our view is that the dimit, having been granted by the lodge and made a part of the record, cannot be revoked by the lodge. Suppose a brother asks a dimit, moves to a distant part, after a time returns to remain in his old home, the certificate not, however, having been issued through the negligence of the secretary, will it be contended that the lodge may cancel its action and collect the accumulated dues? A certificate of dimit is only the evidence of the action of the lodge, and a proper passport to the brother holding it.

Brevity is our motto this year, hence we forego further extracts.

M. . W. . John H. Bankhead, Wetumpka, Grand Master;

Bro. Daniel Sayre, Montgomery, R. . W. . Grand Secretary,
were both reelected.

Bro. Palmer J. Pillans, Mobile, Chairman Foreign Correspondence Committee.

ARKANSAS—1884.

The Forty-fifth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Arkansas was held at Little Rock, Nov. 25 and 26, 1884.

Two hundred and seventy-eight lodges represented.

Four hundred and fifteen on the roll.

Three hundred and seventy-two working lodges in the State.

M. . W. . John J. Sumpter, G. . M. ., presiding.

Seven dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

We commend the following extract from the address of the Grand Master to the careful consideration of the craft in this jurisdiction :

It is not to be expected of Masonry that it can change the conditions of human nature, and divest the heart wholly of its evil passions and tendencies, but what it can and ought to do is to so cultivate the higher attributes and better instincts of our nature that we may learn to be tolerant of each other's opinions, forbearing of each other's faults, forgiving of each other's wrongs, and, above all things, to practice the great Masonic virtue of charity.

Of all institutions, human or divine, Masonry is the most tolerant of freedom of opinion in all matters not involving articles of fundamental faith and practice. In religion we exact only a belief in Deity—in politics, only allegiance and loyalty to the government. In all other matters, absolute freedom to think and act as one's own judgment and convictions may dictate. It is this peculiar feature that has impressed upon Masonry its distinct character of universality, and given it its foremost place among all the institutions, orders and associations that have ever been devised for the promotion of true fellowship among men; and it is exactly in proportion to the degree with which the vital principle is recognized and enforced in the practical working of Masonry that it commends itself to the admiration of all generous and liberal minded men, and to the support of its most intelligent votaries.

It matters little, however, how eloquently we may preach up the doctrines of Masonry, and expatiate upon the beauty of its precepts; unless we carry them into practice in the business transactions and social relations of our everyday life they become, as St. Paul says of faith without works, mere sounding brass and tinkling cymbals.

If Masonry recognizes and guarantees the right of absolute freedom in all matters of mere opinion, then to be angry with a brother, and especially to cherish feelings of hostility or malice towards him for differing from you in opinion, is practically to deny the existence of the right itself. Men, I know, are naturally prone to be intolerant of differences of opinion, especially in politics and religion, but when they come to consider that there is no absolute criterion by which we can determine right from wrong in matters purely of speculation and opinion, we should be the more readily disposed, not only to recognize and acquiesce in the right and justice of that great Masonic doctrine of personal freedom and independence, but to give practical efficacy to it by respecting the opinions of those who may differ from us, and according to others the same honesty and sincerity of conviction that we claim for ourselves. If we would thus practice in real life the precepts and lessons we are so constantly taught in the lodge room, there would be much less of bitterness and acrimony in all those contentions, not only in politics, but in all the business relations of life, that now so often mar the harmony of our social relations and weaken the bonds of fraternal union, and much less of evil to be deplored in those periodic struggles for party supremacy and political power that so violently disturb society and menace the very existence of the government.

The Grand Master pays a fitting tribute to the memory of P. . G. . M. . E. H. English, who died Sept. 1, 1884, aged sixty-nine. Another of the old landmarks gone. We made his acquaintance over thirty years since. A brother of very high Masonic attainments, had been Grand High Priest and Grand Commander of Arkansas, and General Grand High Priest of the

United States. 'Tis well said "he was the pride and glory of Masonry in Arkansas."

Among the decisions reported we note:

1. The reversal by the Grand Lodge of a judgment of suspension by a subordinate lodge operated as an acquittal, and restored the condemned brother to all the rights of full membership.

2. The Junior Warden-elect of a lodge, being a Past Master, has the right to install the Worshipful Master-elect; and, after the Worshipful Master has been installed, he may install all the other officers of the lodge.

3. The provisions of section 285, Digest, apply to itinerant preachers and all others engaged in pursuits that frequently take them away from their homes. A man's domicile is where his *home* is; and absence, however prolonged, does not destroy his domicile so long as he does not voluntarily abandon it with a fixed intent to remain away.

6. The records or proceedings of a lodge, after once being approved, should never be expunged or altered. They should be made to speak the truth, and all needed corrections made before being approved; but if errors or mistakes are afterwards detected, they must be corrected by proper motions made and entered on the minutes of proceedings when made.

7. After a candidate has been balloted for and declared rejected that is a finality to the matter, and no inquiry can be tolerated as to whether an accident or mistake was made. An attempt to break this rule would tend to destroy the sanctity of the ballot-box and the value of a secret ballot.

14. A dimit was granted to a brother on his application. He failed to call for it for a year or two, remaining in the meantime in the jurisdiction of the lodge. During this time the secretary offered the brother his dimit, which he declined to take, saying, "Just let it remain, I may become a member again." He finally asked for the dimit, and the Worshipful Master ruled that he was not, under the circumstances, entitled to it without paying up all dues which accrued during the period he had failed to demand the dimit. I decided the Worshipful Master ruled correctly.

No report on Foreign Correspondence.

M. . W. . W. H. H. Clayton, Fort Smith, elected Grand Master.

R. . W. . Fay Hempstead, Little Rock, reelected Grand Secretary.

ARIZONA—1884.

The Third Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Arizona was held at Tucson, Nov. 11, 12 and 13, 1884.

M. . W. . Alonzo Bailey, G. . M. ., presiding.

Four lodges represented.

Five on the roll.

The Grand Master refused to grant a dispensation for a new lodge because "it would be compelled to meet and work on the ground floor."

Three hundred and fifty affiliated Masons in the jurisdiction, a decrease of five during the year.

Total receipts for the year \$409, and a widows' and orphans' fund amounting to \$175.

Bro. Morris Goldwater presented a brief report on Foreign Correspondence, Minnesota receiving a fraternal notice. In his comments on Minnesota the brother says: "If this means applause, we do not see why they should have been restrained."

Among the first lessons that we were taught was that it was not in accord with the usages or spirit of Masonry to give expression of plaudits or disapprobation in a Masonic lodge by clapping of hands, stamping of the feet, or hisses.

A good report, worthy of older jurisdictions.

M. . W. . M. P. Freeman elected Grand Master.

R. . W. . G. J. Roskrige reëlected Grand Secretary; both of Tucson.

BRITISH COLUMBIA—1884.

The Thirteenth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of British Columbia was held at Nanaimo, June 21, 1884.

M. . W. . Edgar Crow Baker, G. . M. ., presiding.

Six lodges represented.

Nine on the roll.

The Grand Master presented a very lengthy address, principally confined to home matters.

Transactions of local interest.

The Grand Secretary reports the receipts of the Grand Lodge

for the year \$462.75; total membership, 301; increase during the year, 8.

No report on Foreign Correspondence.

M. . W. . Thomas Trounce, Victoria, Grand Master.

"V. . W. ." Edward C. Neufelder, Victoria, elected Grand Secretary.

CONNECTICUT—1884.

The Ninety-sixth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Connecticut was held at Hartford, Jan. 16 and 17, 1884.

M. . W. . Fred H. Waldron, G. . M. ., presiding.

One hundred and ten lodges represented.

One hundred and twenty on the roll.

The following hymn was sung at the opening:

(*Air—AMERICA.*)

Brothers! again we meet,
Old and tried friends to greet,
Vows to renew;
Here, in a bond of love, •
By *word* and *deed* to prove,
That by the PLUMB we move—
Upright and true.

Here on the LEVEL met—
In mystic oneness yet,
A kindred band.
Plight we our troth again,
Weld we the golden chain,
Burnished and free from stain,
Hand grasping hand.

May we renew each vow,
And Heaven's blessing now
Each craftsman share;
One in our ancient art,
Love binding heart to heart,
May we, as Masons, part—
Part on the SQUARE.

The Grand Master says—

My first official act as Grand Master was to refuse the request for a dispensation to appear in full Masonic regalia at a ball, to be given under the auspices of a lodge, as I felt that, to appear as Masons, except when we have Masonic work to do, was contrary to the genius of the institution.

When we are to dedicate halls, lay corner-stones, or attend the funeral of a loved brother, then we should appear as Masons, with proper tools, regalia, etc.; but to appear in regalia at a ball or evening party works no good to our Order.

I am strongly in favor of cultivating the social virtues, and would urge that it be done on all convenient occasions.

Evening parties, musical and literary entertainments, can be given under the auspices of our lodges without parading our working tools, etc. before the public.

Among the decisions reported we note:

A brother is in good standing in his lodge until he has been disciplined, and is entitled to all the rights and benefits of his lodge and the Masonic fraternity at large. Though a brother may be years in arrears with his lodge dues, he is still entitled to the benefits of his lodge, and will so continue until his lodge, by vote on his individual case, strikes his name from the rolls of membership, or for some misdemeanor suspends or expels him.

Dues do not accrue against a brother during the time he is suspended and stands non-affiliated.

He is entitled to a dimit as soon as he has paid his arrearages and been reinstated to membership.

Decision. A registered letter, forwarded to a brother delinquent in dues, the receipt of which is returned to the secretary or Master of a lodge, is a legal notice, and will serve the purpose of such in disciplining a brother for non-payment of dues.

In 1878 Granite Lodge rooms were repaired, and an assessment of three dollars laid on the members for payment of the same. In March, 1879, a brother's assessment was unpaid, and without further notice the lodge voted (by show of hands) that the brother be indefinitely suspended for non-payment of his assessment. Was the suspension legal?

Answer. The suspension was contrary to all law. No brother can be suspended for non-payment of dues or assessment. The punishment is to strike from the roll of membership. No brother can be suspended or stricken from the roll without legal notice and a trial or form of a trial. The brother was not liable for the ignorance of the officers of the lodge, who deserve censure for their action. The brother is a member in good standing, not having been legally suspended. You will see that his name is placed upon your rolls again without further delay.

Question. A member of a Connecticut lodge moves to another

state. He is taken sick and dies. The lodge in whose jurisdiction he dies gives him a Masonic burial and pays the expense of the same. The bill is sent to the Connecticut lodge for payment, which is the first notice or information that the lodge in Connecticut has in regard to the matter. Is the Connecticut lodge under any obligation, legally or morally, to reimburse the said lodge?

Answer. The lodge to which the brother belongs is primarily charged with relief and burial of one of its members. If they neglect or refuse, the duty devolves upon brethren everywhere. Temporary relief is a present duty of all, irrespective of lodge membership. If a lodge buries a brother sojourner, and the charge is fair and reasonable, the lodge to which he belonged ought to reimburse it. A lodge affording relief to a brother sojourner for any length of time, if it expects to be reimbursed, is bound to notify the lodge to which the brother belongs. This rule cannot always be applied in case of burial. It is not in the province of one lodge to contract debts for another lodge, where communication is possible. I would recommend that the lodge should be reimbursed to a reasonable amount, at least.

In one lodge every candidate for two years past had been rejected. The Grand Master arrested the charter. The Grand Lodge approved, and revoked the charter.

The address of the Grand Master is a well-written business paper, and demonstrates the clear-headed, zealous Mason.

The Deputy Grand Master, Grand Senior and Junior Wardens presented interesting reports of the lodges visited in their respective districts. At the previous Annual Communication a committee was appointed to report upon a plan for the purpose of incorporating a "Masonic Charity Foundation Fund." We quote from the report:

That the purposes sought in this proposed act of incorporation may be fully comprehended, your Commissioners deem it proper to present in this paper a condensed statement of its provisions.

First—It provides for a legal incorporation of a Masonic charitable association.

Again—That this association shall consist of each member of the Grand Lodge, and such others as may be accepted, upon payment of a stipulated sum.

Again—That the affairs of this corporate body shall be administered by a board of nine managers.

Again—That at the annual meeting of its members, to be holden on the last day of the communication of the Grand Lodge, the board of managers shall be chosen.

Again—That the board of managers shall receive no compensation for their services.

Again—That the object of this association is to provide a more practical distribution of charity to aged, indigent, sick or infirm Freemasons, their widows and orphans.

Again—That no unusual appropriation of the funds of this association shall be made, except by a two-thirds vote of all members present at a meeting, specially called for the purpose, of which sixty days' notice shall be given.

And finally—That the managers shall securely invest the funds of the corporation, and all investments of the same, and all appropriations therefrom can only be accomplished by approval of a majority of the managers.

The committee note the first bequest to the fund was made by "our late brother, Orin J. Lewis," who "gave one-half of his estate."

Bro. Joseph K. Wheeler presented a well written and interesting report on Foreign Correspondence, containing a review of the proceedings of forty-seven Grand Lodges, those of Minnesota included.

Under the head of Idaho, we find:

There should be some limit, however, to an overplus of seraphic platitudes in Masonic writings. Masonry is not religion, a Sunday-school, a church, or a total abstinence organization; neither are its members all saints, or required to be, by a long shot; and there may be such a thing as indulging too much in hypocritical cant, and weaving too many of our peculiar prejudices into the warp and network of our fraternity. We recognize Masonry for what it really is—a social, moral and benevolent institution—and admire its broad philanthropy and catholicism; and when we hear questions propounded of a sectarian and religious order that would confound the most zealous and orthodox Christian, and make him bow his head in shame, we think the teachers are exceeding the bounds of propriety and stray beyond the pale of Masonic teaching and principle, and may be outside their honest convictions and practice. These words are not intended to apply to the address of Grand Master Cartee, which demands no caustic treatment, but more particularly to those over zealous Masons who would have the world believe that Masonry is religion, or a safe substitute for it, and that every member, therefore, should be a saint, and every lodge conducted on strictly total abstinence principles.

Under the head of Maine, he says:

We do not think proceedings would be irregular or void without the presence of the charter in any of the apartments of the lodge rooms. It is but the certificate of a vote made and recorded in the records of the

Grand Lodge, giving a lodge its authority to exist, and does not become inoperative until that action is revoked or suppressed, either by the Grand Lodge or Grand Master. Any other conclusion would establish a dangerous precedent.

Under the head of Mississippi, we find:

We recognize that dues are for the maintenance of lodge privileges, and when a member is not disposed to pay his annual assessments, the only penalty that should be inflicted is to deprive him of all benefits accruing therefrom.

M. . W. . Dwight Waugh, Stamford, elected Grand Master.

R. . W. . Joseph K. Wheeler, Hartford, reelected Grand Secretary, and is also Chairman Foreign Correspondence Committee.

CALIFORNIA—1884.

The Thirty-fifth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of California was held at San Francisco, commencing Oct. 14, 1884, continuing five days.

M. . W. . Jonathan D. Hines, G. . M. ., presiding.

One hundred and seventy-nine lodges represented.

Two hundred and seventy on the roll.

Five dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

In his address the Grand Master says:

The chief complaint, indeed about the only one of any moment made by the inspectors, is that some lodges will persist in electing to office, particularly to the offices of Master and Secretary, brethren who by nature and education are totally unfitted to discharge the duties thereof in a creditable or satisfactory manner. The bare fact that a brother is socially what is termed "a good fellow," should never, in the absence of qualification, become the passport to either of these positions. Most of the difficulties, financial and social, with which lodges are oftentimes afflicted, proceed from this cause.

* * * * *

Mention is made of the small attendance at funerals in some localities. The last sad rites paid to the memory of a departed brother ought to secure the attendance of every Mason who can possibly spare the time. The world measures our professions more by the manner in which such duties are discharged than by the published tenets of the Order.

Will not the foregoing apply to other jurisdictions?

Among the decisions reported we note :

4. Has a Master the right to exclude from his lodge a member who is intoxicated?

He has, although the right of a Mason in good standing to attend the meetings of his lodge is a very sacred right, and should only be denied in plain cases ; but this right presupposes that he conducts himself with due order and propriety. No fixed rule of action can safely be laid down. The Master must judge of each case as it arises, and he should exercise a sound discretion, to the end that the members be not annoyed, nor scandal brought upon the lodge.

* * * * *

6. I was asked to issue a dispensation authorizing a lodge to confer the three degrees of Masonry upon the same candidate at one meeting. Refused.

* * * * *

7. Would it be proper for a lodge in California to receive and act upon an application for affiliation from a Master Mason who resides in another state?

It would not. While there may be no direct provision of our law that in terms prohibits it, it would be an invasion of the rights of a sister jurisdiction, and might produce irritation, and possible conflict. It involves the same principle exercised by our Grand Lodge in denying to persons residing in this State the right to petition for and receive the degrees in another jurisdiction.

The latter proposition, in our opinion, is stretching the jurisdictional question too far. In Minnesota we concede the right of a Master Mason to apply for affiliation wherever he pleases, in the State or out of it.

We also recognize the right of a lodge to surrender jurisdiction by a unanimous vote.

8. Can a Master take the charter of his lodge to a place within its jurisdiction, other than that named in the charter, and open the lodge for the purpose of conducting a funeral?

No. It is his duty to open the lodge at the proper place, before proceeding to that proposed for the funeral service.

9. Where objections were made to conferring the second or third degree upon a candidate, and the lodge refused to sustain them, and the same brother again made substantially the same objections, can the lodge entertain them a second time?

No doubt the lodge may entertain and pass upon the same objections as often as it sees proper ; but it ought not to permit itself to be trifled with in that manner. The Master should not allow the same objections to reach the lodge a second time.

10. Can an Entered Apprentice Mason receive Masonic burial? He cannot.

11. Where charges have been preferred against a member for speaking disrespectfully of the Order and accusing a brother of cheating him, and before trial apologizes and promises reformation, and all parties being satisfied and desiring to stop proceedings, can the Master dismiss the charges, or must they be tried?

Where charges do not involve gross immorality or criminal conduct, and the parties are satisfied, or where charges are frivolous, the Master can and ought to dismiss them.

12. A case has occurred where, upon a motion to grant a recommendatory certificate, three voted in favor and one voted against, while a number did not respond. The presiding officer declared it carried, but the Secretary refused to issue the certificate, upon the ground that a majority of those present did not vote in favor. I held that, while every member ought to vote, there was no law absolutely requiring them to do so; and that members who, in silence, allow a matter to pass, must be presumed to assent to it. But that in no view of the case could the Secretary be permitted to call in question the ruling of the presiding officer.

13. On a case presented I ruled that, where from some private pique or personal dislike, one brother refuses to speak to another, or even remains away from the lodge in consequence of the other's presence, it was not in itself such an offense as would sustain charges; and that the proper remedy is friendly admonition, leaving all the rest to time and cool reflection.

Bro. A. G. Abell was appointed Grand Secretary to fill a vacancy in 1855, and has been continuously elected every year since, a period of thirty years.

The San Francisco Board of Relief received during the year \$10,964.18, and disbursed \$10,870.45. It appears that the sum of nine dollars was paid to two cases from Minnesota.

The report on Foreign Correspondence, embracing a critical review of the proceedings of fifty-five Grand Lodges—comprising all the Grand Lodges of the United States and of British America—was presented by Bro. W. H. Hill. By the way, we were very much disappointed at not meeting with Bro. Hill while at San Francisco in attendance on the last Triennial Conclave. We have long been conversant with his reports, and very much desired to make his personal acquaintance,—one of the very few of the old reporters with whom we have not had that pleasure.

Under the head of Michigan, commenting on a decision of the Grand Master, he says:

We have always strenuously maintained, and do now, notwithstanding this adverse ruling of the Grand Master of Michigan, that an Entered Apprentice and Fellow Craft have the right to know who objects to their advancement, and the reasons for the objections, that they may remove the obstacle, if in their power, or, at least, furnish the members of the lodge with reasons why it should be removed. If not, we ask "what rights and benefits they have received," if this fundamental one affecting their Masonic life be not one? We would like to read some argument in favor of the above ruling, aside from the *ipse dixit* of a Grand Master.

At the end of a statistical table enumerating the number of lodges and members in the country, he says:

As we look at these figures and notice the grand footings of nearly *six hundred thousand Masons*, we can only express the hope that all will prove themselves to be "good men and true" in all their domestic, civil and ecclesiastical relations, and then what a power for good will Masonry be in our country! Compared with this mighty array, how insignificant appear those small companies of snarlers who occasionally make the welkin ring with their denunciations of Masonry and all secret societies! Still we suppose these dogs will continue to "bay the moon." Well, let them; it may please them—it certainly does not hurt us.

From the elegant address of the Grand Orator, Bro. J. H. Dickinson, we present:

Perhaps more than ever before in its history Masonry is threatened with innovations; and whether it can and will withstand them is about to become a very serious question with us. This is an age of innovation, an age of free thought and disregard for the past and its precedents, and, in our own Order, many are lending themselves to the encouragement of schemes and societies which tend to lessen, by the natural process of familiarity, the respect in which some of our best founded tenets are now held. It is true that the horizon seems clear to the eye and no dark cloud is looming up, but, nevertheless, Masons all over our land are originating and participating in societies, with rituals largely based upon our own and framed through the knowledge of their authors acquired in the lodge room. It is done without intending to violate any vow, betray any secret, or lessen the influence of our fraternity; but it is damaging and very hazardous to dig as nearly as possible to the foundations of a building, and still not permit it to fall or weaken its standing.

The superstition in man's disposition, and an inseparable part of it, is

satisfied by the mysterious in our ceremonial and its observances, but these rapidly lose their force and effect if used slightly or familiarly. Consequently we should be particularly careful how we become associated with societies which largely use our forms, and in the rituals of which many sentences familiar to a Mason are heard. It is well, it is human to be social, but when anything near and dear to us is likely to be affected by that sociality, we must look well to the effect of our action before acting.

* * * * *

I sometimes question the propriety of having so many lodges — many of them being so weak that it is practically impossible to exemplify in their purity the tenets of Freemasonry. I do not mean to discredit the zealous efforts of those worthy brethren who have organized and maintain small lodges, but in brotherly kindness say unto them: have you not in too many instances, undertaken too much; has not your zeal overstepped your prudence, and are you not staggering under a load greater than you can bear; and, in your efforts to maintain your position, are you not continually doing imprudent things?

* * * * *

Again, the ritual is slighted oftentimes in our lodges to the detriment of the Order. A knowledge of our forms and ceremonies, and the ability of our officers to observe and go through them without halting and stumbling, is necessary to obtain and maintain for them the respect which is their due. Mankind like to be engaged in, and connected with, something mysterious; there is a fascination connected with secrecy, with signs and emblems, and a certain pride exists in the breast of every man who knows something that the world at large is ignorant of; but a careless, indifferent, halting performance of the ceremonies, and an uncertain manner in giving and interpreting signs and emblems destroys this fascination, removes the glamour of the mysterious, and puts the whole matter too much within the realities of life to be effective; therefore the good of our Order requires that everything be conducted with confidence and knowledge, and that no Mason should accept an office unless able and willing to perform its duties in the manner and with the knowledge and spirit expected of him, and which Masonry has the right to demand he shall use and exhibit. Our burial service is most impressive, perfectly simple and exquisitely beautiful, and yet how often is it woefully emasculated, mutilated, and rendered in a manner painful to Masons and unintelligible to friends! All matters of this kind can be easily remedied by attention and application, and, while their neglect may not affect the substance of our belief and interest, yet it does insensibly but materially affect our feelings and justifiable enthusiasm.

M. . W. . Jonathan D. Hines, Nordhoff, Grand Master;

R. . W. . Alexander G. Abell, San Francisco, Grand Secretary, were each reelected.

COLORADO—1884.

The Twenty-fourth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Colorado was held at Denver, Sept. 16 and 17, 1884.

M. . W. . Andrew Sangendorff, G. . M. ., presiding.

Forty-three lodges represented.

Fifty-five on the roll.

Five dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

We note two of the decisions reported:

A brother who has dimited from his lodge can be reinstated only on petition for affiliation, and taking the usual course.

* * * * *

The ballot having been declared by the chair, cannot be reconsidered at a subsequent communication, but the applicant may petition again at his own election, provided there are no objections, and his petition is allowed to take the usual course.

Transactions of local interest.

Bro. R. W. Woodbury presented a well-written but brief report on Foreign Correspondence. He concurs in opinion with P. . G. . M. . Benton on the charter question. Of a paragraph in our last report, he says:

Brother Pierson holds that any well-informed brother has a right to examine anyone claiming to be a Mason at any time, and, if satisfied, can vouch for such brother in the lodge. We agree to this, with the addition that the Master may and should determine upon the sufficiency of the examination, and consider the ability of the brother making the examination. In other words, we put the responsibility upon the Master rather than the examiner.

We agree to his comment, provided the Master is as well informed as the vouching brother.

Again we find:

He is not in love with the names of our "Tin Cup" and "Free Gold" Lodge. Brother Pierson, they are the names of the towns in which they are located, and our "Tin Cup" will do very well alongside of your "Clear Water" Lodge.

Clear Water is the Indian name of a river, and the lodge is located in a town upon its banks.

Under the head of Tennessee he says—which meets our views exactly:

Secretaries are paid small salaries, and receive the same regardless of the result of their work. They are paid for keeping the records *and* collecting the dues of members. One year they collect perhaps fifty per cent of the dues, and another year they collect seventy-five per cent. They receive the same compensation, be the amount large or small. If Secretaries were paid a percentage of their collections, and received no other compensation, we think they would attend to their duties better, and the result would be productive of greater general good. Secretaries would then understand that their compensation would depend upon the number of members in the lodge, and the closeness with which they collected dues. They understand that men will frequently pay dues in small amounts, when, if allowed to accumulate, the collection is frequently doubtful, and when insisted on and paid the brother concludes that it is more than he can afford, and asks for a dimit. He wants to get out before any more big bills come in. The Secretary would recognize that his own interest required him to collect accounts when they were small, so as not to lose membership, and the rule would therefore not only keep the finances in better shape, but would materially assist in keeping down desertions.

M. . W. . James H. Peabody, Cannon City, elected Grand Master.

R. . W. . Ed. C. Parmelee, Georgetown, reelected Grand Secretary.

Bro. Roger W. Woodbury, Denver, Chairman Foreign Correspondence Committee.

CANADA—1884.

The Twenty-ninth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Canada was held at Toronto, July 9 and 10, 1884.

"M. . W. . Bro. Daniel Spry, Grand Master, on the Throne."

Two hundred and seventy-eight lodges represented.

Four hundred and two on the roll.

Two dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

Among the decisions reported, we note:

Question. Can the W. . M. . of a lodge permit a brother under the rank of a W. . M. . to confer any portion of the degrees?

Decision. The W. . M. . is responsible for the work, and can per-

mit any brother to assist him in conferring any portion of the degrees except administering the O. . B. .

Question. After a ballot has been taken upon the application of a candidate for affiliation or initiation, and he has been declared rejected, can the W. . M. . order a second or a third ballot to be taken at a later stage of the proceedings?

Decision. After a ballot has been taken and declared either for or against the applicant, it is illegal to reopen or take the ballot again at a later stage of the proceedings that evening.

Question. Is it proper to introduce any work or ritual in a subordinate lodge, other than the "work" prescribed by the Grand Lodge?

Decision. Any Master of a lodge who administers, or causes or suffers to be administered, any charge, right or ceremony other than that prescribed by the Grand Lodge violates his O. . B. .

* * * * *

Question. If a brother objects to the initiation of a candidate after the ballot has been declared, would the W. . M. . be justified in proceeding with the initiation?

Decision. The W. . M. . would not be justified in initiating a candidate, if any member of his lodge objects, without making due inquiry.

Question. Who has authority to dedicate or consecrate Masonic halls?

Decision. The Grand Master only, or the brother he appoints.

* * * * *

Question. Is it legal or proper for a Mason to sell or offer for sale a ritual purporting to be the work or ritual of the Grand Lodge?

Decision. It is highly improper and a Masonic offense for a Mason to print or cause to be printed and offer for sale any ritual or cipher of any portion of the ceremony of the degrees of Masonry.

Question. After a resolution has been adopted by a lodge, can it be reconsidered or repealed without notice having been given?

Decision. No, it cannot be reconsidered or repealed without notice.

The following suggestion by the Grand Master is worthy of consideration on this side of the line:

A highly esteemed member of the Grand Lodge has requested me to suggest that each lodge set apart one meeting in every year, when the founders and old members should be gathered together for the purpose of relating their recollections of the early history of Masonry in the locality where they reside, and for renewing associations which from old age or other causes have been interrupted. I cheerfully comply with the request, as I am of opinion that if each lodge would meet on the anniversary of its formation, a pleasant and profitable evening could be spent once in each year listening to those old Masonic veterans, who are fast reaching the sere and yellow leaf, relate many Masonic incidents that would instruct, entertain and perhaps amuse the

younger brethren, many of whom know but little of the struggles of the older brethren in the early days of Masonry in many parts of Canada.

The case of an applicant who had lost one eye was referred to the "Board on Jurisprudence" for an opinion, who reported:

The board are of opinion that the candidate "should not be debarred the privilege of being initiated;" that he is "in a condition to receive, perform and communicate all parts of the ceremonies and duties of the Order;" that "he has no maim or defect in his body that renders him incapable of learning the art, of serving his Master's Lord, and of being made a brother."

Relative to life membership, the following was adopted:

1. Private lodges may by by-law admit their members to life-membership, on such terms as such lodges may determine, and for each such life member such lodge may pay into the Grand Lodge the sum of five dollars(\$5), which payment shall exempt the lodge from the payment of further dues to the Grand Lodge on his behalf.
2. Upon such life member withdrawing from the lodge of which he originally became a life member, and joining any other lodge, such other lodge shall not be obliged to pay any annual dues to the Grand Lodge on his account; nor, in case he becomes a life member of such other lodge, shall it be obliged to pay a second fee therefor to the Grand Lodge.
3. Life members shall be entitled to all the privileges of, and shall be amenable to discipline, in the same manner as ordinary members.

No report on Foreign Correspondence.

M. . W. . Hugh Murray, elected Grand Master.

R. . W. . J. J. Mason, reelected Grand Secretary; both of Hamilton.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA—1884.

The Seventy-fourth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of the District of Columbia was held at Washington, Nov. 12, 1884.

M. . W. . Myron M. Parker, G. . M. ., presiding.

Twenty-one lodges represented.

Twenty-five on the roll.

A candidate was balloted for in one of the lodges in the District; one black ball appeared. Without ordering a second ballot, the Master declared the candidate rejected. The matter

was reported to the Grand Master, who declared the action void, and ordered that the members be summoned for the next stated communication and the ballot again taken, which resulted in the election of the candidate.

In another case the Grand Master directed the return of a petition of a candidate who had lost the thumb of the right hand.

The Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania presented to the Grand Lodge a "photographic copy of the original book of St. Johns Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, of Philadelphia, Pa., dated June 24, A. D. 1731, marked 'liver B.'" This is the earliest record thus far found of a Masonic lodge in this country, St. Johns Lodge, Boston, dating in 1733, heretofore claiming to be the oldest lodge.

A report on Foreign Correspondence was presented by Bro. Singleton, but, much to our regret, our copy of the proceedings contains but a few leaves of the report. Several forms of the proceedings are duplicated and intermixed with the report. Please send us a perfect copy, Bro. Singleton, for preservation in our archives.

M. . W. . Myron M. Parker, Grand Master.

R. . W. . Wm. R. Singleton, Grand Secretary, were each reelected; both of Washington.

DAKOTA—1884.)

The Tenth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Dakota was held at Aberdeen, June 10, 11 and 12, 1884.

M. . W. . Oscar S. Gifford, G. . M. ., presiding.

Forty-four lodges represented.

Fifty on the roll.

Twelve dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

Among the decisions reported, we note:

A brother desires to affiliate with a lodge which he has never visited, and presents his petition therefor, which is referred to a committee. The brother seeks to visit the lodge after the committee have reported, but before a ballot is taken (there is no brother who can vouch for him), the proper examining committee find and report that the brother cannot work himself into the lodge.

Question. Can the committee, upon the petition, examine and instruct the brother what course should be pursued?

Answer. The Master of a lodge should not allow a brother to affiliate who has never visited the lodge. The committee to whom the petition is referred can examine the brother under the direction of the Master, and if satisfied beyond the shadow of a doubt that he is a worthy Mason, can instruct him so that he can visit the lodge. This should all be under the direction of the Master. There is no usage preventing a lodge from allowing a brother to affiliate who has never visited the lodge, but we cannot encourage the practice, nor of allowing one to affiliate who, through his own incompetency and lack of knowledge, is unable to visit a lodge.

* * * * *

Question. Is a party eligible to the degrees who, through lack of knowledge, cannot write his own name?

Answer. No. His petition should be rejected. A knowledge of reading and writing is as essential in our day as perfect physical strength was in the days of our ancient brethren. What master would employ an apprentice, in our day and age, who, when employed, is eligible to the highest office in the craft, but who lacks sufficient knowledge to sign his name to a hotel register or receipt?

Under the head of "Recommendations," the Grand Master says:

We should settle at once, in this jurisdiction, whether the possession of the Past Master's degree, conferred in a chapter, renders the Master-elect eligible, without receiving it from a lodge of actual Past Masters. This question has not been presented to me squarely, or I should have decided it. I trust that it will now be settled by the Grand Lodge.

The Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence reported—which was adopted:

Resolved, That it is the sense of this Grand Lodge that the honorary degree of Past Master is a part of the installation ceremony, and should be conferred by the installing officer upon the Master-elect when first installed Master of a symbolic lodge. No one but an installed Master or Past Master of a symbolic lodge is qualified to install a Master-elect, and none but installed Masters or Past Masters of a symbolic lodge shall have part in investing a Master-elect with the Past Master degree.

Transactions of local interest.

Bro. William Blatt presented a well-conceived, well-written report on Foreign Correspondence, comprising a critical review of the proceedings of forty-four Grand Lodges, those of Minnesota receiving a kindly notice. We cheerfully reciprocate.

We have known instances where we would rather trust to the avouchment of a brother than to the report of an examining committee. We claim the right of a well-informed brother to avouch for a visitor.

There are lodges in Dakota just across the river from Minnesota, while in the latter the nearest lodge is fifty or one hundred miles distant. Believing that they are eminently capable of good makings in Dakota, why not let them have the privilege, rather than require an applicant to spend several days and travel a hundred miles to get a degree, and *vice versa*?

M. . W. . John F. Schrader, Rapid City, elected Grand Master.

R. . W. . Chas. T. McCoy, Aberdeen, reelected Grand Secretary.

Bro. Wm. Blatt, Yankton, Chairman Foreign Correspondence Committee.

FLORIDA—1884.

The Fifty-fifth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Florida was held at Jacksonville, Jan. 15, 16 and 17, 1884.

M. . W. . Zelotes H. Mason, G. . M. ., presiding.

Sixty-one lodges represented.

Eighty-six on the roll.

We present a selection from the address of the Grand Master:

Masonic lodges, to be efficient, must make their meetings interesting. If there are no degrees to be conferred or other lodge work, let some Masonic question be discussed, have a short lecture upon Masonic History, or Symbolism, or the brethren be questioned and instructed in the ritualistic work. There is much to be learned, and those qualified should be made teachers. A M. . W. . brother in another jurisdiction says: "Make your lodge meetings as social, instructive and pleasant as possible. Endeavor to make them specially attractive, so much so that every member, instead of dreading, or forgetting the time of lodge meeting, will look forward to it with pleasant anticipations, and feel himself wiser and better for having attended. Have some object in view, and accomplish some good in your collective capacity at every meeting." Where this course is pursued, and the brethren become acquainted with Masonic law, and the binding force of obligations, there will be fewer cases of failure to respond to a lodge summons; and when there is a failure, the offending brother should be cited to show cause

why he should not be dealt with. If the law was more strictly enforced, especially in lodges located in the country and small towns, there would be fewer charters forfeited or surrendered.

We would add to the first paragraph, lectures upon any subject except political or religious. An old lecture says: "What is Masonry? The science of sciences. Why so? Because it comprehends within itself that of all others."

The Grand Secretary presented to the Grand Lodge the record book of Dawkins Military Lodge, U. ·. D. ·., which was lost during the retreat of the Confederate forces from Petersburg, Va., in 1865, which was found and deposited in the archives of Clark Lodge, No. 101, Ohio, and by the Master of that lodge returned to the Grand Secretary of Florida.

Eight dollars and thirty cents remained in the treasury unappropriated.

Bro. D. C. Dawkins presented a report on Foreign Correspondence, in which is noted the proceedings of the lodges in foreign countries only.

M. ·. W. ·. Robert J. Perry, Key West, elected Grand Master.

R. ·. W. ·. DeWitt C. Dawkins, Jacksonville, reëlected Grand Secretary.

GEORGIA—1884.

An Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Georgia was held at Macon, Oct. 28, 29 and 30, 1884.

M. ·. W. ·. John S. Davidson, G. ·. M. ·., presiding.

Two hundred and forty-three lodges represented.

Three hundred and nine on the roll.

Four dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

Among the decisions reported we note:

3. When it is discovered that an Entered Apprentice Mason is unworthy, on account of offenses committed *before* he became a Mason, he may be rejected for the Fellow Craft degree, but no charges can be preferred against him for such offenses unless, by his *own* concealment of the *facts*, his conduct amounted to a *fraud* upon the lodge, which fraud was equivalent to the commission of an offense subsequent to the date of his initiation.

* * * * *

5. Lodges cannot refuse a dimit to an applicant if he has paid his

dues and there are no charges of unmasonic conduct against him. As I understand the law of Masonry in this jurisdiction, the maxim is, "freely come, freely go," and such is the settled policy of this Grand Lodge.

6. If the Senior Warden's station is filled by a *pro tem.* officer who is not a Worshipful Master or Past Master, and the Worshipful Master of the lodge is compelled to retire, it is the duty of the regular Junior Warden of the lodge to take the station in the East, supplying his place in the South by a *pro tem.* appointment.

* * * * *

8. An applicant is elected to the Entered Apprentice degree in one lodge. After taking it he removes into the jurisdiction of another lodge, which, at the request of the first lodge, confers on him the Fellow Craft and Master Mason degrees. He, at the request of the Worshipful Master of the lodge conferring said Fellow Craft and Master Mason degrees, enrolls his name as a member of said last-named lodge. Held, that he did not thereby become a member of said lodge, but still remained a member of the lodge initiating him. His course was to procure a dimit from the lodge which initiated him if he desired to join another lodge. Membership in Masonry is only obtained by ballot.

9. There is no Masonic law requiring a non-affiliated Mason who desires to join a lodge to apply to the lodge nearest his legal residence.

* * * * *

14. A Mason can be tried and convicted of an offense by his lodge, even after an acquittal by the civil courts of the land.

* * * * *

17. It is the duty of the whole lodge, as well as the special committee of three usually appointed, to examine into the character of any applicant, and any member may report against him; and it is his duty so to do if he knows of anything rendering him unworthy.

An examination of the report of the Committee on Appeals and Grievances discloses to us a feature that we do not remember as having heretofore noticed. We find several paragraphs in the report similar to the following:

Action of Mountain Lodge, No. 232, excluding, and recommending for expulsion, J. K. Michael, is approved, and J. K. Michael is hereby expelled.

Action of Hazlehurst Lodge, No. 283, excluding, and recommending for expulsion, William Yarbrough, is approved, and said William Yarbrough is hereby expelled.

From which it would appear that the subordinate lodge has not the power to expel. We are inclined to the opinion that the principle is correct.

Transactions of local interest.

It is a source of congratulation that the finances of the Grand Lodge of Georgia are improving, particularly as one result is the enabling of Bro. Blackshear to resume his place among the reporters, albeit that he is circumscribed. He presents a report on Foreign Correspondence that has some of the familiar ring of the long ago.

Under the head of Indiana, he says:

We have always favored the "one ballot system," for the reason that an applicant, when he has taken one degree, is a brother, and should not be deprived of the remaining degrees unless the objection is openly made and he allowed to make his defense. No brother should have it in his power to stab another brother in the dark.

Under Maine, we find:

If the lodge sees fit to exhibit its charter to a visiting brother it has the unquestionable right to do so; but we said, and still hold, that a visiting brother *has no right to demand the charter*. One of the first things we were told, after receiving the third degree, was that we had this right, and that the lodges we visited would expect us to exercise it. We have never done so yet, for the reason that we have never visited a lodge that we cared to insult by bringing its legality into question. And how many of those who demand the charter know any more of its legality after its examination than they did before?

We concur in both propositions.

It is to be hoped that the financial affairs of the Grand Lodge will be put in condition to enable Bro. Blackshear to present a report of over sixty pages next year.

M. . W. . John S. Davidson, Augusta, Grand Master.

R. . W. . J. Emmett Blackshear, Macon, Grand Secretary,
were each reelected.

INDIANA—1884.

The Sixty-fifth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Indiana was held at Indianapolis, May 27 and 28, 1884.

M. . W. . Bruce Carr, G. . M. ., presiding.

Four hundred and fifty-seven lodges represented.

Five hundred and sixty-seven on the roll.

Four dispensations for new lodges issued since the last Grand

Communication. The Grand Lodge, at three of its last sessions, adjourned for two years, thus holding biennial sessions.

In his conclusion, announcing the death of P. : G. : M. : Thomas R. Austin, aged seventy-four years, the Grand Master quotes:

“Tears drop all gently when the aged die,
For now their work is done, and they have long
Craved heavenly domicile. This world, for them,
Has nothing more; mortality at best
Is but a burden, a deep throe of pain;
On earth they labored, loved, yet suffered oft—
Now heavenly fruition comes. We do not weep
As when the lovely spring-bud of life's hope
Lies cold upon its mother's heaving breast;
We do not mourn as when our summer joy
Is withered in the blooming, or, as when
The fruits of autumn perish, immature.
It is as when the full ripe sheaf is borne,
All rich with treasure, to the granary;
And therefore they are blessed who attain
The reverend estate of winter's years.”

We note the following decision:

No assessment can be made or collected from the membership except as dues, which must be provided for in the by-laws of the lodge.

We commend the following from the address of the Grand Master:

The duties of a committee appointed to investigate the character of a petitioner, and his fitness to be made a Mason, should be something more than simply to indorse the petition with “favorable” or “unfavorable.” It is the duty of the Committee of Investigation to make strict and diligent inquiry into the character of the petitioner, ascertain what are his habits—domestic and business—as well as his moral and intellectual capacity; and it is incumbent upon them to report this fully to the lodge. This report should be oral, and should embody fully the nature of what the committee have learned of the character of the petitioner. Then the lodge can vote intelligently upon the petition. It is only necessary for the Secretary to note in the minutes that “the report of the committee was made and the committee discharged.”

We present from the annual report of the Trustees:

BRETHREN: At the annual meeting of the Grand Lodge in May, 1878, the total indebtedness of the Grand Lodge was one hundred and three thousand six hundred and sixty-six dollars and sixty-six cents. To-day it is thirty-two thousand dollars in round numbers, being a reduction in the principal in six years of seventy-one thousand six hundred and sixty-six dollars and sixty-six cents, or an annual reduction of a fraction over eleven thousand dollars.

That you have made sacrifices to accomplish this great work no one will gainsay. You have honestly toiled and labored for *nearly* seven years, buoyed up by the hope and promise that your temple would ere long be free from debt, and it is our pleasant duty to inform you that it is within your power to fix the time when we may assemble in this hall to celebrate with joy that happy day when we can proclaim to the world that the Most Worshipful Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of the State of Indiana holds undisputed right and title to her temple and hall, free from incumbrances of every kind.

The Committee on Ways and Means reported—which was adopted:

1. That this report has been examined in detail, and is found to be cheerful, promising and satisfactory.

2. That, to fully sustain the trustees in their promise to wipe out the entire debt in two years, should the Grand Lodge adjourn until the fourth Tuesday of May, 1886, therefore be it

Resolved, That the action of the trustees of the Grand Lodge for the years 1883 and 1884 be approved.

Resolved, That when the Grand Lodge adjourns it shall be until the fourth Tuesday in May, 1886; and, in the meantime, all the revenues thereof, as received, shall be applied by its officers toward the extinguishment of the debt.

In a case of expulsion, the Grievance Committee recommended the reversal of the sentence and dismissal of the case. The committee say:

There seems to be a hardship in this case. The accused, if unfortunate in his personal affairs, ought not to be turned out of Masonry on that account. Masonry is not a collecting agency. The courts are open, and the place to advance or assert civil remedies can be found elsewhere than in a Masonic lodge. Masonry does not require one Mason to lend his name as surety on a note for another. He may do so if he chooses, but it is not a crime in Masonry to become so poor in this world's goods that he can not, at any given time, pay all of his debts. It is the duty of a Mason to pay his debts, but it is not just to expel a Mason because misfortune overtakes him at some period of his life. There is nothing in the evidence to show that the accused acted in bad faith.

The Grand Lodge concurred.

Another case:

The evidence shows that the point in controversy arose out of the advancement of a candidate. While the candidate was about to be passed to the degree of a Fellow Craft the accused appeared and objected to the further advancement of the candidate, and coupled his objections with his reasons for making the objections. His reasons being thus placed before the lodge, the Worshipful Master and the lodge had a right to determine whether his reasons amounted to an objection. The Worshipful Master ruled that his reasons did not constitute a substantial objection to the advancement of the candidate.

A brother making an objection to the advancement of a candidate is not obliged to give his reasons for the objections, but when he does give his reasons they become the property of the lodge, and the lodge may adjudge them as being captious and insufficient.

After his objections were thus overruled and held insufficient by the Worshipful Master, the accused filed charges against the Worshipful Master before the Grand Master, as above stated, and it is claimed that the accused, in making his statement before the Grand Master, overstated his case, or stated it different from what it really was. By an examination of the whole case, your committee believed the accused acted in good faith when filing the charges, but probably afterwards discovered that he had acted hastily, so he allowed his charges to go by default.

The lodge concluded by ordering the accused to be reprimanded, and he took this appeal. Your committee consider that the action of the lodge in the premises is sufficient reprimand, and we recommend that the appeal be sustained, and that the case be certified back with instructions to dismiss the same.

Which was concurred in.

In another case a brother had been convicted in the courts "upon a trial of bastardy." Upon a trial in the lodge he was acquitted. The Grand Lodge sustained the action of the lodge.

The Grand Lodge holds, as does our own, that each lodge in the State has judicial powers to try any brother who commits an offense within its territorial dominions, no matter where his membership is located.

Bro. William Commons presented a report on Foreign Correspondence of one hundred and forty-one pages, embracing a very excellent review of the proceedings of forty-seven Grand Lodges for the years 1882 and 1883. He compliments our report for 1882 thusly:

The report of Foreign Correspondence is presented by the Grand Secretary, and is as good a resume of Masonry as can be presented in the space of one hundred and six pages.

M. . W. . Albert P. Charles, Seymour, elected Grand Master.

R. . W. . William H. Smythe, Indianapolis, reelected Grand Secretary.

Bro. Simeon S. Johnson, Jeffersonville, Chairman Foreign Correspondence Committee.

ILLINOIS—1884.

The Forty-fifth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Illinois was held at Chicago, Oct. 7, 8 and 9, 1884.

M. . W. . Daniel M. Browning, G. . M. ., presiding.

Six hundred and fifty-one lodges represented.

Seven hundred and sixty-six on the roll.

Eight dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

Two decisions reported:

A member of a lodge cannot be disciplined for objecting to a brother who is not a member visiting the lodge. Nor can his reasons for objecting be inquired into.

In the trial of Masonic offenses there is no statute of limitations.

As to the latter, we think charges should be preferred at once on it becoming known that a crime had been committed. Where the courts have taken cognizance of a matter, it is well to await the verdict before final action in the lodge, but in all other cases action should be had immediately after the commission of the act. Waiting one or more years and then preferring charges has the appearance of persecution; delay has the appearance of a disposition to condone.

The Grand Master says:

It having been reported to me that an organization called the "Egyptian Rite of Memphis," and other organizations of a like character, were claiming the right to organize "Blue Lodges," I referred the matter to the Committee on Foreign Correspondence for an investigation and report.

As it may be of interest to the craft in this jurisdiction we

select from the report of the committee, which was adopted by the Grand Lodge with but ten dissents:

BRETHREN: It has long been a settled law of this Grand Body that lodges of the Symbolic Craft (the degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason) could not be authorized except by and through the inherent powers of a Free and Independent Grand Lodge, duly and constitutionally organized in accordance with primary immemorial usage established by the ancient law, and which declares, as a fundamental principle or landmark, that Masons are not permitted to make innovations upon the body of the institution.

Notwithstanding the pointed provisions of this groundwork of the craft, it has been the practice in some of the states of Continental Europe, and in the Spanish settlements of the continents of North and South America, to merge the craft with outside associations of Masons (both legitimate and illegitimate), a union that was never contemplated by the original progenitors of the institution, and which is not only inimical to independent craft existence, but is also in violation of the primary law of its early organic foundation. For these reasons this Grand Lodge has for years declined to recognize Grand Lodges that were not in their entirety made up of lodges deriving their authority from constitutional Grand Bodies of the fraternity.

The Grand Lodge of Illinois has never interposed obstacles to members of its lodges entering into any association of Masons (without the portals of its lodges), but it firmly denies to such associations the authority to assume, in any associated capacity or otherwise, any function inhering to its lodges; therefore it is that the attention of your committee has been called to an article appearing in a periodical known as the *Masonic World* (and for the month of April of the present year), a paragraph of which will be found in the following letter of inquiry. As such publication was supposed to be the organ or mouthpiece of the so-called "Egyptian Masonic Rite of Memphis," with central authority resident in Boston, Massachusetts, I addressed a letter to Bro. "Darius Wilson, 96°," and the "Grand Master" of said rite, as follows:

OFFICE OF THE COMMITTEE ON CORRESPONDENCE
OF THE GRAND LODGE OF ILLINOIS, F.° & A.° M.°,
CHICAGO, May 5, 1884.

To Grand Master Darius Wilson, 96.90, Egyptian Masonic Rite of Memphis, Boston:

In the *Masonic World*, published in your city, and for the month of April last, I find an extract from the *Masonic Tablet*, the concluding paragraph of which reads:

"The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts has committed a fatal error because she does not attempt to carry into effect her illegitimate amendment, or if she does, the result will be schism and confusion worse con-

founded. The three Scottish Rite bodies assailed will naturally unite and form an alliance, offensive and defensive, with the members of the Egyptian Rites, and as all these bodies, if forced into the position, have the inherent right to grant warrants for Blue Lodges, the result would speedily be two Grand Lodges, a result that the whole Masonic world would deplore, but which in all probability would occur if the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts attempted to expel leading members of the higher degrees."

The Grand Lodge of Illinois has never presumed to dictate to members of its constituent lodges their affiliations with other sodalities or associations, if of a reputable character, and that do not offer any hostility to the fundamental principles upon which the lodge is founded; but we do insist upon entire and unreserved control of the degrees of Symbolic or Craft Masonry, to-wit: the degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason, within the territorial jurisdiction of our Grand Lodge. Will you therefore advise this committee if, under any circumstances or conditions, it is held by the body over which you have the honor to preside, that it has an inherent right to establish, conduct or control Blue Lodges, meaning thereby the three degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason.

As it is the particular province of this committee to lay before our Grand Lodge any information touching its welfare, it is hoped and expected that you will give this communication your early attention.

THEODORE T. GURNEY,
Correspondent.

In response to this, Bro. Wilson writes as follows, at the same time inclosing a copy of the constitution of said Rite of Memphis. First to his letter, followed by a quotation from the constitution aforesaid, and to which he particularly directed our attention:

"EGYPTIAN MASONIC RITE OF MEMPHIS,
"OFFICE OF THE SOVEREIGN SANCTUARY OF AMERICA,
"BOSTON, MASS., May 10, 1884.

"Theodore T. Gurney, Chairman of Committee on Correspondence of M. W. Grand Lodge of Illinois, F. & A. M.,

"MOST WORSHIPFUL SIR AND DEAR BROTHER: Yours of the fifth instant received. You ask 'if, under any circumstances, it is held by the body over which you have the honor to preside, that it has an inherent right to establish, conduct or control Blue Lodges, meaning thereby the three degrees of Craft Masonry, Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason.'

"I answer that we have no right, nor do we claim the privilege, to work or control the first three first-degrees of Masonry in any state or territory where a Grand Lodge is legitimately working those degrees.

"But we do claim to have the same right as that possessed by the Scottish and other rites of Masonry to work the first three degrees in

unoccupied territory, but we differ from the Scottish Rite in this, that we work them only for a specific purpose, viz., the establishment of a Symbolic State or Territorial Grand Lodge, after which we cease to have anything whatever to do with the control of those degrees.

"We have never exercised the privilege in this country, neither do we expect to do so. We prefer to leave this matter entirely to the various Grand Lodges of the different states and territories; yet you will see by our constitution, which I have already mailed to your address, that we do not propose to be bottled up and prevented from working by the hostile and unmasonic action of any Grand Lodge of F. . . & A. . . M. . . We always have treated, and shall continue to treat, Grand Lodges Craft Masonry with the greatest courtesy, but if they make unreasonable warfare upon us we shall try to protect ourselves, that is all.

"We firmly believe in Grand Lodge sovereignty, but we just as firmly believe that Grand Lodges should attend to their own legitimate business and let us alone.

"The Grand Lodge of Massachusetts has placed herself in such a position as to authorize us, under the provisions of our constitution, to establish a Grand Lodge in this Commonwealth, and yet we have not been hasty.

"Almost two years have elapsed, and we have not as yet availed ourselves of this privilege, and it is not likely that we ever shall, as we think it will be unnecessary. Trusting that I have answered your questions as fully as you desire, I am, with the greatest respect,

"Yours fraternally,

"DARIUS WILSON, 96°,

"Grand Master Egyptian Masonic Rite of Memphis, U. S. A.

* * * * *

Your committee would further represent that another rite, known as the "Ancient and Primitive Rite of Memphis," does not hesitate to assume, by its charters, that it has rights over the Symbolic or Craft degrees. M. . . W. . . Bro. Dewitt C. Cregier, Past Grand Master of Masons in Illinois, and as determined in hostility to such assumptions as is the writer, addressed a note to Alexander B. Mott, the Grand Master General of the said Ancient and Primitive Rite of Memphis, receiving the following reply:

"A. . . & P. . . RITE OF MEMPHIS,

"OFFICE OF ALEXANDER B. MOTT, M. D., 33°.90°.96°. , M. . . I. . . GRAND MASTER GENERAL IN AND FOR THE CONTINENT OF AMERICA,

"62 MADISON AVENUE, NEW YORK, May 21, 1884.

"Ill. Bro. Dewitt C. Cregier, 33°.95°. , Grand Representative,

"DEAR SIR AND ILL. BROTHER: Your letter of the ninth would have received prompt attention but for my absence from the city. I was in Philadelphia, Pa., organizing a Mystic Temple, having recalled the charter of the old one. Of course, *I agree with you that although our*

charters give us the right to organize bodies of the three first degrees, it should not be exercised, and if you will refer to our constitution of the A.·. & P.·. Rite of Memphis, you will find that we renounce that privilege, and should never be done with my sanction." * * * *

Subsequently Bro. Cregier received another communication from the same source, dated May 29, 1884, and as follows:

"Your favor of the twenty-third has been received. I beg to refer you to the history and constitution of the An. and Pr. Rite of Memphis, published under the auspices of the Sov. Sancy. in 1874, of which I presume you have a copy. Upon page 172 is a true copy of the charter under which we work, indorsed by Grand Orient of France in 1862, which authorizes from first to ninety-five degrees; at the same time you will find on pages 182 and '83 a decree from this Sov. Sancy. forever waiving and renouncing all claim over the three first degrees, and making it obligatory that a candidate should be a Master Mason in good standing to be received into the Order. This will set you right, I think, and you will no longer express sorrow that such privilege has been granted to the A.·. & P.·. R.·. of Memphis, whose charter (the only legitimate one in this country) *gives them a privilege which we cheerfully waive* in favor of Grand Lodges of the United States. On the contrary, we should have *credit and consideration* for doing so from Grand Lodges, and be recognized by those bodies in the same light as chapters, commanderies, or A.·. & A.·. Rite. You will also find that the same law exists with us in reference to expulsion in Blue Lodges, of members of our rite.

"You say you will place my last letter before the Committee on Correspondence of Grand Lodge. Be so kind as to attach this one to it, so that they can understand our position, and not place us in the same category as they may the fraudulent Sov. Sanc'ty of Boston, Michigan and Canada, all having their origin from Calvin C. Burt, who, in a letter to me, acknowledged that he never had a charter of the Rite of Memphis, but used a *photograph* of one in my possession.

"I have been a Mason for over thirty years, and never until lately heard that Grand Lodges, who claim that there is nothing beyond the Blue Lodge, would presume to dictate to M.·. M.·. what societies or associations (even claiming to be of a Masonic character) they were permitted to join; they have no jurisdiction beyond the Blue Lodge, and certainly contradict their own doctrine when they legislate outside of that body.

"While I am willing and desirous that they should denounce imposters and warn M.·. M.·. to have no intercourse with them, *I am unwilling to be placed in the same category, and shall assert the rights given to me by the several charters in my possession, and the recognition of our Sov. Sanc'ty throughout the world.*" * * * *

Italics ours, in both letters.

The brethren will not fail to observe that Bro. Mott plants himself upon the same platform with Bro. Wilson; that under certain conditions or circumstances he will exercise the supposed rights embraced in his *charters* from France, and insisted upon by his rite in other countries of the globe.

It is with pain and mortification that we find members of lodges, presumably well advised of the fundamental principles at the base of our organized existence, assuming to make Masons, and organizing them into lodges without remote constitutional authority. We most emphatically deny this assumption, and, as an earnest of the purpose of this Grand Lodge to maintain and defend rights that we hold to be sacred and inviolable, it is hereby proclaimed:

First—That persons cannot be made Masons except by the act of a regular lodge, working under the jurisdiction and by the authority of a Grand Lodge duly constituted by the representatives of lodges of Free and Accepted or Craft Masons.

Second—That every association of Masons, of whatever name or degree, other than that of the three degrees of Craft Masonry heretofore described, that assumes the right to congregate, initiate, pass and raise persons to the several degrees of said Craft or Symbolic Masonry is clandestine, and is hereby so pronounced and declared. And

WHEREAS, The aforesaid "Egyptian Masonic Rite of Memphis," of which Bro. Darius Wilson is "Grand Master," together with the "Ancient and Primitive Rite of Memphis," of which Bro. Alexander B. Mott is Grand Master, declare, by both positive avowal and implication, that they and their organizations have an inherent right, by charters and otherwise, to establish lodges for conferring the degrees of Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason; therefore,

Resolved, That the said "Egyptian Masonic Rite of Memphis," and the said "Ancient and Primitive Rite of Memphis," and all other associations of persons of whatever degree or name (other than lodges of Free and Accepted, Symbolic or Craft Masons, and the Grand Lodges duly constituted by the representatives of such lodges), that shall arrogate to themselves the authority, under any circumstances or conditions, to confer the degrees of Symbolic or Craft Masonry, to-wit, Entered Apprentice, Fellow Craft and Master Mason, or whose charters, constitutions, laws, edicts or decrees shall assume, or permit the powers organized under them to assume, the authority to constitute lodges, or bodies of any other name, for the conferring the said three degrees of Symbolic or Craft Masonry, are clandestine bodies within the meaning of the fundamental law of Masonry; and with their constituents, dependents and individual members are clearly within the scope of the inhibitions of section 2, article x, of the constitution of this Grand Lodge; and all the Masons within the jurisdiction of the said Grand Lodge of Illinois are hereby warned that any Masonic intercourse with the aforesaid "Egyptian Masonic Rite of Memphis," of which Bro. Darius Wilson is "Grand Master," or the "Ancient and Primitive Rite of

Memphis," of which Bro. Alexander B. Mott is "Grand Master," their members and constituent bodies, or with any other association or persons assuming to have any authority, powers or privileges in Ancient Craft Masonry, not derived from this Grand Lodge, within the State of Illinois, will subject them to the penalty attaching to a violation of their Masonic covenants.

The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That a correct interpretation of the Grand Lodge by-laws relating to lodges under dispensation forbids that any brother shall be permitted to sign a petition of a charter for a lodge under dispensation except those who united in the original petition for the dispensation, and brethren raised therein under such dispensation.

The pamphlet or book before us contains four hundred and forty-four pages of closely printed matter, in fine type, of which the report on Foreign Correspondence comprises two hundred and forty-one pages, presented by Bro. T. T. Gurney. As we have, *ante*, devoted several pages to one of his reports, we cannot do justice to the exhaustive one before us, but rest contented with a few extracts.

Under the head of Montana, he says:

Is the memory of Bro. Hedges so much impaired that he cannot bring to mind the unhappy contests between New Mexico and Missouri, Minnesota and Dakota? It is true that those mother Grand Lodges erred in denying the authority of majorities; still, that measuring of swords was an evidence of the care felt for children that did not desire a change of home and parentage.

We do not admit that Minnesota "erred;" we contend that the "unity" principle governs in Masonry; but as Grand Lodges have been formed in all the territories but one or two, the discussion is practically of no moment.

Again, under the same head, he says:

There are two classes of persons that are of no advantage to the fraternity, and constitute large numerical importance to our organizations. The first is a class with morbid curiosity to know what there is of Masonry. When this is satisfied, their interest wanes and ultimately vanishes. The second, aside from curiosity, would like to be known as Masons, if such notoriety can be accomplished without contributions of care and labor in the welfare of the institution—they will pay dues if called upon, and are only known to the fraternity from the lodge rec-

ord. Brethren may legislate till the end of time, and such men will fall from the ranks. Our personal opinion is, that the less legislation upon the subject the better. Let lodges care for their members as best suits themselves.

Under the head of Massachusetts, relative to its action declaring certain bodies only as legitimate, he goes into a lengthy disquisition as to various rites and organizations. While we think that in his criticisms relative to the Chapter, Commandery, Past Master's degree, etc., he is laboring under a misconception, yet we have not, at this writing, time to review. We quote from his report:

First—That in all the history of the symbolic lodge, of our mother tongue, excepting in the case of the Grand Lodge of England (in its anxiety to heal a schism between itself and the "Ancients"), and in one or two instances on this continent, has a Grand Lodge departed from immemorial law by assuming control or direction of degrees and orders not originally embraced in the symbolic system.

Second—That such innovations have long since been repudiated; the Grand Lodges of English speaking jurisdictions, comprising a vast majority of the Masonry of the earth, being entirely free of alliances that cast any reflections upon the integrity and sovereign independence of the lodge.

Third—That there is nowhere to be found in the history of any sovereign and independent Grand Lodge authority given to associations of Masons, outside the lodge, to practice any part or portion of its rituals.

Fourth—That the practice of employing the esoteric rituals, signs, grips, words, and symbols of the lodge are indefensible usurpations, and groundwork of error and contention.

Fifth—That a Grand Lodge is not remotely justified in recognizing any association of Masons over which it does not exercise supreme control, as "duly and regularly constituted Masonic bodies;" because it is without such authority emanating from the fundamental and original powers entering into its organization and constitution.

* * * * *

1. That Ancient Free Masonry, or Ancient, Free and Accepted Masonry, has had an existence, both in primary and constitutional origin, long anterior to organizations now being recognized as "duly constituted Masonic bodies," and that the fundamental principle, which forbids innovations upon the body of the fraternity, is as ancient as its constitutional life.

2. That the lodge thus founded and organized cannot submit itself to or accord protection to any other associations, composed, though they may be, of Masons; neither can it recognize such sodalities as duly constituted Masonic bodies.

3. To recognize fraternities of which the lodge cannot know anything, and which, for the most part, are founded upon principles repulsive to the established and well-defined and ancient axioms of the craft, is an anomaly without precedent, and a reproach to Masonic intelligence.

4. That Grand Lodges have been too long remiss in duty in not interdicting those of their obediences from practicing such rituals in other associations of Masons, or from conveying such rituals, or nomenclature, in any other manner or form than that provided by the fundamental law of the lodge.

Under the head of Minnesota, we find:

The first, that a Grand Master should not "give an official opinion, having the force of law, except to the Master of a lodge." We conceive it to be the duty of a Grand Master not to give an opinion upon a question of law unless it is to be respected, whether to member or Master. More, we hold that the most humble craftsman has the same claims upon the attention of the Grand Master as has his superior officer of the lodge. Bro. Benton is the Grand Master of *Masons* in Minnesota, and not simply the presiding officer of the Grand Body.

Bro. Benton was right. The Worshipful Master of a lodge announces a decision relative to some matter before it; a captious member makes a statement to the Grand Master, it may be somewhat colored; the Master was, perhaps, wrong. Should the Grand Master so inform this captious member he would flaunt the opinion at the next meeting of the lodge, to the manifest disturbance of its harmony. On the other hand, the Grand Master quietly says to the Master: "Your decision was wrong; take an early opportunity to revise it." The feelings of the Master are not injured, the wrong is righted, and peace and harmony preserved.

M. . W. . John R. Thomas, Metropolis, elected Grand Master.

R. . W. . Loyal L. Munn, Freeport, reelected Grand Secretary.

IOWA—1884.

The Forty-first Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Iowa was held at Council Bluffs, June 3, 4 and 5, 1884.

M. . W. . George B. Van Saun, G. . M. ., presiding.

Three hundred and forty lodges represented.

Four hundred and thirty-eight on the roll.

Thirteen dispensations for new lodges issued during the year, and nine continued over from the previous session.

In the Hartsock case, which has been a bone of contention in Iowa for some six years past, the Grand Master reported that, as per instructions of the Grand Lodge, he presided at a specially summoned communication of Iowa City Lodge, No. 4, to try the case:

These charges were read in open lodge, together with the evidence for and against the accused, with the following result: On charge No. 2—*guilty*, thirty-eight ballots; *not guilty*, twenty-nine ballots. On charge No. 3—thirty-eight ballots *guilty*, and twenty-five ballots *not guilty*. As our law requires two-thirds of all the ballots cast to convict, he was declared by the vote of the lodge to be not guilty of the offenses charged. As the Grand Lodge, in my opinion, assumed original jurisdiction of this particular case, *by requiring the Grand Master to proceed in person to Iowa City, etc., and try this case, and that then and there the alleged offenses of Past Grand Master Hartsock be fraternally and thoroughly investigated, AND A PROPER JUDGMENT FINALLY RENDERED*, and as plainly voted at last Grand Lodge Communication that she had original jurisdiction, therefore, in accordance with our expressed views, I ordered the Worshipful Master and Secretary of Iowa City Lodge, No. 4, to forward transcript of the proceedings held, together with all papers and written testimony relative to this case, to this present Grand Lodge Communication for your review, investigation and *final* action.

The Committee on Grievances and Appeals presented a lengthy report, which was adopted by "more than a two-thirds vote."

It was then

Moved, That Past Grand Master James Rush Hartsock be expelled from the Grand Lodge.

Which motion, after discussion, and after hearing Past Grand Master Hartsock in his defense, was agreed to by more than a *two-thirds* vote in full Grand Lodge.

If the Grand Lodge had assumed jurisdiction in the first instance, as it had the undoubted right to do, it would have saved vexation, expense and hard feelings. Again, what is the status of the defendant "expelled from the Grand Lodge," not from Masonry? Suppose, next year, his lodge should send him to the Grand Lodge as its representative,—what then?

The Grand Lodge of Iowa has taken the lead of all other

Grand Lodges in the erection of a building for a Grand Lodge library, the corner stone of which was laid May 7, 1884, by the Grand Lodge, at a special meeting at Cedar Rapids. We can imagine how proud Grand Secretary Parvin was on that occasion.

Grand Master Van Saun is a worker. He reports:

I have held, during the Masonic year, two hundred and sixty-one sessions for instruction, at seventy-five different lodges, having traveled nearly sixteen thousand miles, and have been absent from home in the discharge of these duties two hundred and two working days, besides giving instruction to many individual brethren at sundry places. If any good has been accomplished by me in this work among the craft, to no one are the craft more indebted than to the companion of my joys and sorrows. During my journeyings from place to place I have called upon many brothers old and infirm, whose weary feet have come very near the end of their toilsome pilgrimage, and some of whom I have met in Grand Lodge many times in the past. These visitations have been very pleasing to me, and were apparently so to them. As I recall those brethren to my mind, I am reminded of those beautiful and expressive words—

“Only waiting till the angels open wide the mystic gate,
At whose feet I long have lingered, weary, poor, and desolate.
Even now I hear the footsteps, and their voices far away—
If they call me, I am waiting, only waiting to obey.

Again he says:

In visiting the lodges this year, many cases have been brought to my attention where an Entered Apprentice, or a Fellow Craft, has been stopped by an objection to his advancement by some member of the lodge, and, in very many cases, worthy brothers of those degrees have had a stigma or cloud attached to their good names, and no way left to them whereby they could defend themselves from the covert attacks of their accusers. In the majority of these cases, I believe, the objections have been made simply for selfish reasons, and are unworthy to be made by a true Mason. Many a good Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft has been unmasonically dealt with in refusing his advancement under the old law because of the objection made. Had the objection been made before the novitiate had received his O. B. as an Entered Apprentice it would seem more just, but when made thereafter, then it would seem as though an injustice had been done the brother seeking advancement, and really places him in a worse position than a person who has been rejected in the first place.

A strong argument in favor of the Minnesota usage. Objection after a party has received one degree must be stated either

in open lodge or to the Master. In the one case the lodge, and in the other the Master, decides upon the validity of the objection.

The Grand Master, in his conclusion, says:

As an expression of my views in this great and good work in the Masonic field, I can express my thoughts and feelings most earnestly in these beautiful lines, written by "Bonar," and with them I will close:

"I need not be missed if another succeed me,
To reap down the fields which in spring I have sown ;
He who plowed and who sowed is not missed by the reaper,
He is only remembered by what he has done.

"Not myself, but the truth that in life I have spoken ;
Not myself, but the seed that in life I have sown,
Shall pass on to ages, all about me forgotten,
Save the truth I have spoken, the deeds I have done.

"And so may my life be, so be my dying —
So let my name be—unblazoned, unknown,
Unpraised and unmissed, I shall yet be remembered,
But only remembered by what I have done."

From the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence, we select:

When a Mason is suspended for non-payment of dues, he is, during such suspension, deprived of all the privileges of Masonry.

* * * * *

First—When any member neglects for six months to pay dues, unless the said dues have been remitted by a vote of the lodge, it shall be the duty of the Worshipful Master, at a regular communication, to direct the Secretary to notify the delinquent personally, or by registered letter, to appear at the next regular communication and show cause why he should not be disciplined for such delinquency.

Second—Should the delinquent fail to appear, or should he appear at the time appointed and then pay his dues, or should he appear and fail to give the lodge a satisfactory reason for his delinquency, and by a formal vote of the lodge have further specified time granted him in which to make said payment, the Worshipful Master shall formally declare him suspended from all the privileges of Masonry.

Third—The payment of the amount due at the time of his suspension shall reinstate him without a vote of the lodge ; *Provided*, Payment be made within the year. But in case such payment is not made within one year after his suspension, he can only be restored by due petition and a two-thirds ballot, at a regular communication.

* * * * *

First—When an Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft applies for advancement, and objections, other than one relating to his suitable

proficiency, are made, the Worshipful Master shall then and there announce, in open lodge, that unless the objector shall cause charges to be presented against said candidate for advancement at the next ensuing regular communication the objection shall be deemed waived; and if charges are not then preferred, the Worshipful Master *shall* proceed to confer the degrees.

Second—When a brother Entered Apprentice or Fellow Craft shall remove from the jurisdiction of the lodge in which he was made, and shall apply to his lodge for permission to be granted the lodge under whose jurisdiction he resides to confer upon him the remaining degree or degrees, then if objection is made to the granting such waiver of jurisdiction, and more than two-thirds of the members present at a regular communication vote against such waiver, then the Worshipful Master shall announce in open lodge that unless charges are presented against the applicant at the next regular communication, his application will be granted under the seal of the lodge.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is from the facile and felicitous pen of Bro. T. S. Parvin, embracing a critical review of the proceedings of fifty Grand Lodges, those of Minnesota for 1883 included.

Bro. Parvin is opposed to the use of the scissors in making up reports on Foreign Correspondence, and hence gives but few extracts. He has a remarkable faculty of condensing, which makes his reports particularly valuable.

In our report of last year we said: "This new-fashioned notion of perpetual jurisdiction is, in our opinion, a humbug;" on which Bro. Parvin comments: "It is worse than a humbug; it is an outrage upon the rights of men and Masons."

(Enter printer's devil, calling for copy.) "Hold on; just engaged on Bro. Parvin's admirable report." "Can't wait; boss said I must be quick, as men were waiting for copy."

See how it is; sorry, but good bye, Bro. Parvin, for the present.

M. W. Charles T. Granger, Waukon, elected Grand Master.

R. W. Theodore S. Parvin, Iowa City, reelected Grand Secretary, and is also Chairman Foreign Correspondence Committee.

IDAHO—1884.

The Seventeenth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Idaho was held at Boise City, Sept. 9, 11 and 12, 1884.

M. . W. . Chester P. Coburn, G. . M. ., presiding.

Eight lodges represented.

Fifteen on the roll.

Nine Past Grand Masters present.

Transactions of local interest.

Masonry appears to be in a prosperous condition in Idaho.

Receipts, \$1,682.50. Orphan fund amounts to \$1,322.

No report on Foreign Correspondence.

M. . W. . John A. Post, elected Grand Master.

R. . W. . Jonas W. Brown, reelected Grand Secretary; both of Boise City.

INDIAN TERRITORY—1884.

The Tenth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Indian Territory was held at Atoka, Choctaw Nation, Nov. 4, 5 and 6, 1884.

M. . W. . Edmond H. Doyle, G. . M. ., presiding.

Sixteen lodges represented.

Seventeen on the roll.

Four dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

We note a decision reported by the Grand Master:

Question. Is it absolutely necessary that the Master-elect should have the Past Master's degree? If so, by whom and how conferred?

Answer. Yes. Agreeable to the regulation of this Grand Lodge, all Masters must be invested with the Past Master's degree before serving as W. . M. . Our regulations do not say by whom or how conferred. However, I *hold* that this degree can only be conferred by actual Past Masters who have been elected and installed into office, and not by those who have taken the degree only as R. . A. . M. . There must be at least three such Past Masters present, and the senior has the right to preside.

He also decided that members of a lodge who were working a lodge U. . D. . must pay dues to the lodge of which they were members. In Minnesota we require a certificate that dues were paid up to date of application for dispensation, after which the petitioners are only charged with the amount of Grand Lodge dues.

Transactions of local interest.

Bro. J. S. Morrow presented a very readable report on Foreign Correspondence. Minnesota receives a pleasing notice.

M. . W. . Edmond H. Doyle, McAlester, Grand Master.

R. . W. . J. S. Morrow, Atoka, Grand Secretary, were each reëlected. The latter is also Chairman Foreign Correspondence Committee.

KENTUCKY—1884.

The Eighty-fifth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Kentucky was held at Louisville, Oct. 21, 22 and 23, 1884.

M. . W. . Howard R. French, G. . M. ., presiding.

Three hundred and ninety-one lodges represented.

Six hundred and twenty on the roll.

Two dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

Ten Past Grand Masters present.

Three Past Grand Masters died during the year.

The Grand Master, in his address, made a most eloquent appeal in favor of the "Masonic Widows' and Orphans' Home." He says, in concluding:

It is a living illustration of the principles we profess, and no profane who looks at the noble edifice and into the happy faces of its inmates can escape the conclusion that it must be an honor to be a member of the fraternity that can conceive and execute such a design. None worthier of our skill and labor was ever traced upon the Master's trestle board, and none will bring richer reward to the toiling craftsmen, for their wages will be the widows' blessing and the orphans' thanksgiving. Many generations of useful men and women will rise up to call it blessed, and when monuments of civic renown and military glory have crumbled into dust this home of the distressed will remain in its strength and beauty, for its foundations are laid in the great heart of the fraternity. The ignorant profane may scoff at our tenets, and ridicule our ritual; even popes may denounce us in encyclical letters, but so long as our teachings are exemplified in such noble ways the fraternity must continue to number among its membership the good and true of all nations, and be counted a potent factor in the elevation and purification of human thought and action.

Among the decisions reported, we note:

3. If an officer of a lodge is subsequently elected to a different office he cannot be installed in that office until his successor in the former office is elected and installed. If the latter refuses to be installed the

former must hold his position, and the office to which he is last elected is held by the incumbent.

4. Where the lodge having jurisdiction rejects a petition for initiation, the applicant may, after the lapse of twelve months, and subject to other restrictions, petition any other lodge having jurisdiction.

5. Where the penalty is reprimand, and it is inflicted, a motion for a new trial is not in order. The remedy is by appeal to the Grand Lodge.

6. Any member of the lodge has the right of appeal, and therefore the right to move for a new trial; and this, whether the accused is adjudged innocent or guilty.

7. When the by-laws of the lodge are silent on the subject, a petitioner who neglects to present himself for initiation until three years have elapsed should be required to petition anew. Although the constitution fixes no limit, it evidently contemplated that the petitioner should take advantage of the privilege within a reasonable time.

8. A brother who has been adjudged insane is not amenable to Masonic process, and cannot be suspended for non-payment of dues.

To aid in the support of the "Masonic Widows' and Orphans' Home" a semi-monthly quarto paper is published, styled the *Masonic Home Journal*, price, one dollar per year. The work is done at the Home, and mostly by the inmates. Bro. H. B. Grant, Assistant Grand Secretary, Louisville, will promptly acknowledge subscriptions. We have no apology to offer for this advertisement. There is not a Masonic family in the land but that would be pleased with the paper, and, considering its object, Masons everywhere ought to subscribe, and thus contribute a mite to sustain so noble a Masonic charity.

Bro. James W. Staton presented a well-written, well-conceived and judicious report on Correspondence. He had evidently carefully read the proceedings reviewed, among which are those of Minnesota for 1883. He says of Bro. Cornish's oration: "It is worthy of careful perusal."

Your Representative is not a member of the Grand Lodge, Bro. Staton; hence his absence.

M. . W. . John G., Orndorff, Russelville, elected Grand Master.

R. . W. . Hiram Bassett, Millersburg, reelected Grand Secretary.

Bro. H. B. Grant, Louisville, Assistant Grand Secretary.

KANSAS—1884.

The Twenty-eighth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Kansas was held at Lawrence, Feb. 20 and 21, 1884.

M. . W. . George S. Greene, G. . M. . , presiding.

One hundred and fifty-three lodges represented.

Two hundred and twenty-three on the roll.

Twelve dispensations for new lodges issued during the year, "and quite as many more refused."

Relative to begging for aid to build halls, etc., the Grand Master very judiciously says:

I have been importuned during the year to grant special dispensations to lodges in this jurisdiction, permitting them to solicit aid to build halls or buy lodge furniture. These requests I have invariably refused. Lodges should be able to manage their own business affairs, provide a place of meeting, and secure the necessary lodge equipments without asking outside help as charity. I do not look upon this as Masonic charity, and the practice should not be permitted by our own lodges or tolerated by lodges outside of our jurisdiction asking help from us. We should build our own Masonic homes, and in doing so avoid extravagance and running in debt; and, when a home is once secured, make suitable provision by judicious insurance, so that in case of a calamity your lodge will not be left without resources from which to rebuild.

We note two of the decisions reported:

1. A Past Master can be tried by the lodge of which he is a member, for an offense committed while Master of that lodge.
2. A member of a lodge, who has been suspended for non-payment of dues, petitions his lodge for restoration, and is rejected; he then applies to the Grand Lodge, and is restored to all of the rights and benefits of Masonry. Held, that the lodge had no authority to reconsider its action in rejecting the applicant after such restoration by the Grand Lodge, and that in attempting to do so it acted without authority, and such action was, therefore, void.

The reports of the Grand Master and Grand Secretary are thoroughly business documents, and reflect credit upon the authors.

A pleasant episode in the proceedings was the presentation of the two sole survivors of those who assisted in the organization of the Grand Lodge—one over eighty-six years of age and the other over eighty.

The following resolution, adopted by the Grand Lodge, we commend to the lodges in this jurisdiction:

Resolved, That hereafter this Grand Lodge will not remit the annual dues of any subordinate lodge in this jurisdiction, on account of loss by fire, that fails to place a reasonable amount of insurance upon its property and furniture.

The report on Foreign Correspondence, embracing a careful review of the proceedings of fifty-one Grand Lodges, was, as heretofore, presented by Bro. J. H. Brown, and in his usual style comments kindly and to the point—just such a report as one would expect from his genial character. He says, in his opening comments:

Though our institution is old, yet new questions arise from year to year, to be discussed by the patient reviewer and presented to the craft for consideration. Officers of lodges should be familiar with such questions, especially when they are divested of all extraneous matter, and no labor but reading and thought needed to reach a sound solution. But such is not the fact. Yet it is not easy to understand why so many of the officers of our constituent lodges are not more conversant with transactions and reports of our Grand Lodge, when year by year they are furnished with three copies, which they are expected to read for their own guidance and that of the brethren over whom they have been chosen to preside. Surely, if they carefully read them, there would be little necessity for appeals to Grand Officers for information upon questions of Masonic law and usage. A perusal would cost less time, and in the end prove more beneficial to the officers, by enabling them to dispose of questions without the delay incident to correspondence. Let officers generally read our reports, and soon they will find new interest displayed in their lodges, and confidence increased in their abilities.

He coincides with P. . G. . M. . Benton that a dispensation to continue labor is not required when a charter has been lost by fire.

We have read the whole of Bro. Brown's report, but as we are laboring to make this report as brief as possible, we must forego the pleasure of making further extracts.

M. . W. . J. Jay Buck, Emporia, elected Grand Master.

R. . W. . John H. Brown, Wyandotte, reelected Grand Secretary, and is also the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

LOUISIANA—1884.

The Seventy-second Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Louisiana was held at New Orleans, Feb. 11, 12, 13 and 14, 1884.

M. . W. . James L. Lobdell, G. . M. ., presiding.

Forty-four lodges represented.

Two hundred and twenty-eight on the roll.

Under the head of "Rulings," the Grand Master says:

After a careful review of the decisions and rulings made by myself and the Deputy Grand Master during the past year, I can congratulate you that we have added nothing to the jurisprudence of the fraternity.

He, in common with a large number of the craft elsewhere, regrets that illness prevents the attendance of the Grand Secretary, and says of him:

Dr. Batchelor has been more than a servant of the Grand Lodge; he has been its mentor.

Very many of the craft from this jurisdiction—in fact all that called upon him—remember and speak in the highest terms of the courtesies, Masonic and otherwise, extended by Bro. Batchelor while on visits to New Orleans.

Of Montgomery Lodge, he says:

I desire to call your attention to a new feature in which there is an example worthy of emulation. There is under the immediate direction and control of the lodge a school, at which the children of the neighborhood are educated.

Transactions of local interest.

The report on Foreign Correspondence was confined to a notice of a few of the foreign Grand Lodges.

M. . W. . James L. Lobdell, Lobdell's P. O., Grand Master.

R. . W. . J. C. Batchelor, M. D., drawer No. 872, New Orleans, Grand Secretary, were each reelected.

Bro. M. E. Girard, Vermilionville, Chairman Foreign Correspondence Committee.

MAINE—1884.

The Sixty-fifth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Maine was held at Portland, May 6, 7 and 8, 1884.

M. . W. . William R. G. Estes, G. . M. ., presiding.

One hundred and sixty-four lodges represented.

One hundred and eighty-six on the roll.

One dispensation for a new lodge issued during the year.

The Grand Master announced the death of P. . G. . M. . Joseph C. Stevens, which event occurred June 9, 1883, at Boston, aged eighty years, and was buried with Masonic honors by Trinity Lodge.

We made the acquaintance of Bro. Stevens in 1854, and in 1856 had the pleasure of commissioning him as the Representative of the Grand Lodge of Minnesota near that of Maine, which position he held at the time of his decease. Another of our early friends gone to

“The bosom of his Father and his God.”

Among the decisions reported, we note:

1. It is necessary to refer an application for degrees to the Committee of Inquiry at the stated communication at which it was received, in order to act upon it at the next.

2. It is proper for a lodge to issue a duplicate dimit to a brother who has lost the original.

3. It is not proper, nor should a brother be allowed, to wear in a Master Mason's funeral procession a Royal Arch Mason's apron. It would be just as proper for a Master Mason who is an Odd Fellow to wear the regalia of that order as for one who is a Royal Arch Mason to wear in a Blue Lodge the apron of that degree.

4. The Grand Master has no authority to restore surrendered charters or change the location of a lodge. Charters once surrendered are held by the Grand Lodge, and can be restored by no other authority.

5. A brother who is a member of a lodge in good standing is entitled to all the rights and benefits of Masonry, no matter what misfortune may befall him mentally.

6. A brother three years in arrears of dues, having had notice of the same, is not entitled to a letter under seal certifying that he is a member in good standing.

* * * * *

8. A Masonic hall may be built and situated as most convenient, without conforming to the cardinal points of the compass. The lan-

guage of the ritual pertaining to the situation of lodges is symbolical and not arbitrary in meaning, except in a ritual sense. It can hardly be presumed that, when our ancient brethren met on high hills or in deep vales, they always found the situation conforming to the language of our ritual.

* * * * *

10. The Tyler's neglect to vote, or ask to be excused from voting, on the suspension of a brother, *does not invalidate* the proceedings.

Under the head of "A Reprehensible Practice," the Grand Master says:

I regret to learn that in some lodges candidates are allowed to be crafted and raised without that regard being paid to the "suitable proficiency" which the law requires. No violation of a Masonic law can result in a greater injury to our institution than to advance candidates before they have become familiar with the preceding degree. If we would have our symbols comprehended and our principles understood by Masons, Entered Apprentices, Fellow Crafts and Master Masons must be taught the science of Masonry. It is no excuse to plead want of time, though sometimes it is said that a poor excuse is better than none. Our law requires candidates to make a suitable proficiency in the preceding degree before being advanced, and it is the Master's duty to see that they make it. If Masonry is not worth studying in the beginning, it is not worth having, and candidates should so understand it. Intellectual drones are as useless in Masonry as physical or constitutional drones are in good society. Show me a dull Mason, and I will show you one who never learned the lectures in his advancement nor comprehended the principles of our Order in the days of his manhood. Look to it, Worshipful Masters, that your candidates make the necessary proficiency in their advancement before you oblige your officers to say they have done so.

The following was adopted:

Resolved, That this Grand Lodge approves the position of the Grand Lodge of Utah, that any Mason joining an organization whose avowed principles and practices are in violation of the laws of Freemasonry is liable to Masonic discipline.

The report on Foreign Correspondence, presented by Bro. Drummond, covers one hundred and eighty-three pages, and is a critical resume of the proceedings of fifty-three Grand Lodges — those of Minnesota included — written in his fraternal style.

Under the head of Arkansas, he says:

It is true that the vote is the essence of the grant; but a grant is not ordinarily completed *until the delivery of the deed*. The vote to grant a dimit does not become effective until the dimit has been actually delivered.

Under the head of California, we find:

The fact is that an appeal always vacates or stays the judgment as such; but in case of expulsion or suspension the accused stands suspended until final decision, just as in our civil law. If a man is sentenced to death or imprisonment for life, and appeals, the judgment is stayed, yet he is not turned out upon the community, but is held in prison, not under the conviction, but in order that he may be forthcoming when sentence is pronounced. Suspension, after a Masonic trial, corresponds with holding in prison. The accused is deprived of his usual rights in both cases, but not as a part of his punishment.

Under the head of Connecticut, he says:

The suggestion that we, as Master Masons, cannot know anything about these bodies, seems to us arrant nonsense. We have the voucher of Masons in good standing that they are members of these bodies, and that they are bodies of a Masonic character; in other words, we have "lawful information" upon the subject. If we exclude from human knowledge everything learned by information, the remainder would not be worthy of the name of knowledge.

It seems to us that the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts took a correct and common sense view of the matter, at any rate so far as the exceptions from the prohibition are concerned. The policy of making the prohibition at all we do not propose to discuss. That is a matter not of Masonic law, but of policy, which each jurisdiction can best determine for itself.

Under the head of Mississippi, we find:

To *reconsider* is to put matters in the precise position in which they were just before the vote to reconsider was adopted, and is always retroactive. For this reason, as meetings of lodges are usually held only once a month, the Masonic law usually forbids reconsideration at any subsequent meeting. In this respect it accords with the general parliamentary law, which is that a vote cannot be reconsidered after the session in which it was passed has closed by the final adjournment of the body. To amend or rescind at a subsequent session a vote adopted at a prior one, resort must be had to a similar act or resolution, and not to a reconsideration of the old one. This is precisely what we understand that the Grand Master decided, and precisely what the committee say is correct.

Under Ohio, he says:

He wishes for our views on the "one ballot question." When, as formerly, a Master's lodge was a distinct body from the Fellow Craft's lodge, a ballot in each lodge was proper and even necessary. But now we have a lodge conferring the three degrees, and according membership only to those who have received them all. Practically, a man does not become a Mason until he has received all the degrees and acquired membership. Candidates petition *for all the degrees* and membership; if one of them understood that he could receive only one degree, he would not petition at all. In a word, we have made the *three* degrees the process of making a Mason, for all practical purposes. No member would for a moment think of electing a candidate as an Entered Apprentice whom he did not think fit to be a Master Mason. The vote is upon the petition, and grants or refuses what that asks. But some say the second and third ballots are on the question of proficiency. This is not true in fact, and if it were it undertakes to act upon a matter which by Masonic law is imposed upon the Master; whatever the lodge may vote, he must determine the question upon his own responsibility, and if he believes a candidate has not made "suitable proficiency," he violates his duty if he advances such a candidate, even in accordance with the vote of his lodge. If objections to the candidate arise after he has been initiated, there is a method by which they can be made available, if they are well founded. As the sole object of the petitioner is to become a Master Mason, the question of his fitness, in justice to him, ought to be determined at the outset; and as the question of his proficiency ought to be determined by the Master, only one ballot should be taken. After taking the fees, or a part of them, a candidate, who would have given nothing for a part of the degrees, ought to receive them all, unless reasons arise which, when submitted to the lodge, should be determined sufficient to debar him from proceeding.

Our paper has "gin out"—no room for more extracts.

M. . W. . William R. G. Estes, Skowhegan, Grand Master.

R. . W. . Ira Berry, Portland, Grand Secretary; were each reëlected.

Bro. Josiah H. Drummond, Portland, Chairman Foreign Correspondence Committee.

MASSACHUSETTS—1884.

The One Hundred and Fifty-first Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts was held at Boston, Dec. 10, 1884.

M. . W. . Abraham H. Howland, Jr., G. . M. ., presiding.
One hundred and fifty-nine lodges represented.

A dispensation for a new lodge at Concepcion, Chili, was issued during the year.

The address of the Grand Master was confined to the business matters of the Grand Lodge.

Immediately after the installation of the Grand Officers is held the Grand Feast. The speeches made are reported in full in the proceedings. They have many eloquent men connected with the fraternity down there in Boston, and the speeches made at the annual feasts are worth more attention than is ordinarily given to such matters.

We learn from the addresses on the occasion that no sooner was the announcement made that the temple had been paid for, that the Grand Lodge was out of debt and had thirty-eight dollars in the treasury, that it was proposed to raise \$100,000 for a "Masonic Education and Charity Trust." An act of incorporation was obtained, trustees elected, and \$5,000 transferred to the fund. Verily, the brethren in the old Bay State are mindful of the claims of the widow and orphan, and the Grand Feasts are made use of as a stimulus to good works.

No report on Foreign Correspondence.

M. . W. . Abraham H. Howland, Jr., Grand Master.

R. . W. . Sereno D. Nickerson, Grand Secretary, both of Boston, were reelected.

MARYLAND—1884.

We have the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Maryland, had at the Semi-Annual Communication held at Baltimore, May 13 and 14, 1884.

M. . W. . John S. Tyson, G. . M. ., presiding.

Sixty-nine lodges represented.

One hundred and seventy-nine on the roll.

One dispensation for a new lodge issued during the year.

The Grand Master says:

We are now in a situation which will enable us gradually to reduce the debt of the Grand Lodge, and ultimately to pay it off.

For which the credit is due to the Grand Master, who has labored assiduously for a number of years to that end; in fact it is due to his untiring efforts that the hall has been saved to the Grand Lodge.

Transactions of local interest.

The report on Foreign Correspondence was presented by Bro. Wm. J. Worth. Minnesota is duly noticed. We condole with Bro. Gorgas on the affliction in his family which prevented his preparing the report. We remember the reports of Bro. Worth in the past, and read them, as we have the present, with much pleasure.

M. . W. . John S. Tyson, Grand Master.

R. . W. . Jacob H. Medairy—No. 6 N. Howard Street—Grand Secretary, were reelected; both of Baltimore.

MICHIGAN—1884.

The Fortieth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Michigan was held at Kalamazoo, Jan. 22 and 23, 1884.

M. . W. . C. F. R. Bellows, G. . M. ., presiding.

Three hundred and forty-six lodges represented.

Three hundred and sixty-four on the roll.

Three dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

Under the head of "Imperfect Material," the Grand Master says:

Several cases have been referred to me for advice regarding the acceptance and working of imperfect material, as follows:

1. A candidate is elected and receives the first degree, when it is found that he is blind in one eye.
2. A candidate petitions for initiation, in whose case it is found that when he was about ten years of age he was hit in the eye by a cricket ball, which caused a cataract to grow over the sight. There is no deformity of the eye that would be discovered by an ordinary observer. Both eyeballs look alike except the cataract over the sight of one.
3. A man most worthy of the honor desires to become a Mason, but he is badly crippled in the ankle—has to use a crutch.
4. The petition of ——— was received and referred to a committee, who reported favorably. At a special for his benefit, it was ascertained that he had lost his thumb and forefinger of the right hand.
5. Our lodge has initiated and passed a candidate who was supposed to be in every respect worthy. Since being passed he has had an epi-

leptic fit, and we have ascertained that he has been subject to them for several years.

6. We have a gentleman who is worthy and well qualified to become a Mason, excepting the fact that one leg is a trifle shorter than the other, owing to contraction of the cords caused by a white swelling when a boy.

In each of the above cases I have refused to sanction the acceptance or further working of the material.

In Minnesota we would have completed the work in the cases of 1, 2 and 6, as we have rulings upon such cases. As to No. 5, we can't see what occasional sickness has to do with making a Mason.

He refused permission for lodges to join in procession on Decoration Day, and also to join with the Odd Fellows in procession on the occasion of the dedication of a hall of the latter. Very proper.

Among the decisions reported, we note:

1. Can a Fellow Craft be dimitted?

Answer. No. A dimit terminates membership, and, accordingly, applies only to Master Masons.

2. Can a brother, after a ballot has been ordered by the W. . M. . in the election of a candidate, be excused from voting.

Answer. No. A ballot having been ordered and in process of collection, it cannot properly be suspended or interrupted by any other vote or business of the lodge.

3. Can a member of a committee to whom the petition of a candidate was referred authorize the Secretary or any other person to sign the member's name to the report?

Held, that the member should sign the report himself, not by proxy.

4. A candidate for Masonry is elected; but before initiation an objection is lodged with the W. . M. . by a brother who was not present when the candidate was elected. Does the objection debar the candidate from initiation?

Answer. Yes. Until the objection is withdrawn or the objecting brother ceases, from any cause, to be a member of the lodge.

5. An applicant for the third degree is objected to by several members of the lodge as to further advancement. Is he entitled to a hearing and trial upon demanding that the objectors show cause why he should not be advanced?

Answer. No. The objectors cannot be compelled to establish the validity of their objection.

6. Held, that a lodge may attend, as a body, the funeral of a brother buried by the Order of Knights Templar.

* * * * *

10. A lodge is opened at a called communication in the evening, to make arrangements for a funeral the following day, and is called off till time of funeral.

Held, that the lodge should have been closed and opened again the next day, being closed after the burial.

11. Has the Master of a lodge the right to admonish in open lodge a committee appointed on a petition for initiation, to be especially careful in their investigation?

Answer. It is the right of a W. M., and his duty, when in his judgment it is necessary, to admonish any officer of the lodge or committee charged with official duties to be faithful and thorough in the discharge of such duties. * * * * *

12. Held, that a lodge cannot appropriate money from its treasury to aid a local benevolent society, however charitable the objects of such society may be.

* * * * *

14. Can a dimit be legally granted by a lodge to a member remaining in the jurisdiction of the lodge?

Answer. Yes.

* * * * *

18. A candidate received the degrees, but was not declared a member of the lodge, nor was his name entered upon the books as a member.

Question. Is he liable to be charged for dues accruing during the time he was not recorded as a member of the lodge?

Held, that the brother was liable to payment of dues from the time he received the third degree.

19. A candidate who has acquired the necessary residence in the territorial jurisdiction of Lodge A desires to take the degrees in Lodge B. What is the proper course to pursue?

Answer. Have him petition Lodge A, the petition taking the regular course. If he is elected, Lodge A, if it pleases, may request Lodge B to do the work. The fees and membership are with Lodge A.

20. Is it lawful to install the officers elect of a lodge who are in arrears for dues from one to five years?

Answer. Yes, perfectly lawful.

* * * * *

22. Can a Mason under charges for unmasonic conduct be elected to office in a lodge?

Answer. Yes, if he can get enough votes.

23. Can an unaffiliated Mason appear as the attorney of a brother charged with unmasonic conduct?

Answer. Yes, if he is not debarred from visiting the lodge.

24. Does a brother being in arrears for dues one or more years debar him from right to vote at lodge elections?

Answer. Certainly not.

25. A Worshipful Master writes as follows: "A little over a year ago a petition was received and the candidate elected to take the first

degree; but, before receiving it, a brother objected, and I ordered the fee returned. At our last regular a new petition was presented. I held it could not be received until the objection was withdrawn. Was I correct?"

Answer. Yes. Until the objection is waived or withdrawn no further action by the lodge can be had in the case.

* * * * *

29. An objection is lodged with the Worshipful Master to the advancement of a candidate on the evening of a regular meeting of the lodge by a brother unable to attend. The Master orders the Secretary to make an entry in the minutes, as follows: "A Master Mason in good standing, and a member of this lodge, has objected to Bro. A B, an E. . A. ., receiving further light in Masonry."

Question. Is this a proper action in the premises?

Answer. Yes.

Question. Is the Master obliged to reveal the name of the objecting brother, it being intrusted to the keeping of his own breast?

Answer. No. The Worshipful Master is virtually the objector in such a case.

30. Lodge B obtains consent to confer the second degree upon material of Lodge A.

Held, that Lodge B cannot confer the third degree also without further consent of Lodge A.

As to No. 4. In this jurisdiction it is held that an objection before initiation is held to be the same as a black ballot, but the petition may be again presented after the expiration of one year.

No. 5. In Minnesota the reasons for objection must be stated to either the lodge or Worshipful Master; which applies also to No. 25.

No. 6. In this jurisdiction it is held that a Masonic lodge, as such, cannot join in a procession unless it has Masonic work to do.

As to No. 29, the committee differed from the G. . M. ., and reported:

But in case of any such objection, that it be the duty of the W. . M. . not only to receive the objection, but also to report the *fact* of the objection and the *name* of the objector, and have both made a matter of record.

The Grand Lodge had four special communications during the year: To lay the corner-stone of a court house; of a music hall; dedicating a Masonic hall; and to bury P. . G. . M. . Wm. L.

Greenly, and ex-governor of the State. The report of the latter ceremonies concludes with:

There's nothing terrible in death ;
'Tis but to cast our robes away,
And sleep at night without a breath
To break repose till dawn of day.

The dead alone are blessed ;
While they are here clouds mar the day,
And bitter snowfall nip their May ;
But when the tempest time is done
The light and heat of Heaven's own sun
Brood o'er their land of rest.

An amendment to the Penal Code was adopted, as follows:

If the offense charged be a crime by the civil law, and the accused shall have been convicted of such crime in any court of record, the record of such conviction, or a certified copy thereof, may be read as evidence only of the guilt of the accused ; *Provided*, That no such record shall be held sufficient without some corroborative evidence ; *And provided further*, That such conviction and the judgment thereon shall stand in force, and be unreserved at the time of the trial in the lodge ; *And provided further*, That if, at the time of such trial, any proceeding in behalf of the accused, by writ of error, or otherwise, be pending for the reversal of such judgment, such trial may proceed or be postponed until the determination of such proceeding, as the lodge, by a majority vote at a regular meeting, shall determine.

Relative to the "joint occupancy" of halls, the following was adopted :

Resolved, That no lodge shall be permitted to occupy a lodge room in conjunction with any other society or organization which is not Masonic ; *Provided*, That in case of destruction of a lodge room by fire the Grand Master may, in his discretion, grant to a lodge permission to occupy a hall or room occupied by another society for a period not exceeding six months ; *And provided further*, That in cases where lodges now existing find it impossible to procure separate lodge rooms the Grand Master shall grant permission to such lodges to occupy their present quarters until there is an opportunity to rent separate quarters ; *Provided further*, That a lodge having an existing lease or contract for occupancy in connection with another organization not Masonic shall be permitted to occupy their present quarters until the termination of such lease or contract.

Resolved, That each lodge in this jurisdiction now occupying a hall in connection with any other association not Masonic is hereby ordered

on or before April 1st next, to furnish to the Grand Master, under seal of the lodge, a statement of the terms and conditions of the lease, contract or agreement, by virtue of which such joint occupancy exists, and the date upon which such lease, agreement or tenancy shall expire.

The report on Foreign Correspondence, was presented by Bro. W. P. Innes, covering one hundred and fifty pages, embracing a masterly review of the proceedings of forty-five Grand Lodges, those of Minnesota included.

We have frequently had occasion to remark upon the excellence of Bro. Innes' reports. Of the one before us, suffice it to say it sustains his reputation.

We found the card, Bro. Innes, but if you had gone one block further you would have found us at our other office. But hereafter you will find us where you "peeked into the keyhole," having received—after ten years' service—a gentle notice that our services were no longer required at the other place.

We have devoted so much space to Michigan that we must forego the pleasure of presenting extracts from Bro. Innes' report.

M. . W. . Arthur M. Clark, Lexington, elected Grand Master.

R. . W. . William P. Innes, Grand Rapids, reelected Grand Secretary, and is also the Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

MISSOURI—1884.

The Sixty-fourth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Missouri was held at St. Louis, Oct. 14, 15 and 16, 1884.

M. . W. . Lee A. Hall, G. . M. ., presiding.

Two hundred and four lodges represented.

Five hundred and twenty-two live lodges in the jurisdiction.

Bro. Vincil calls our attention to an error in our enumeration, in last year's report. It seems that the total number of lodges chartered by the Grand Lodge is seven hundred and nine, of which one hundred and eighty-seven have ceased to exist. Missouri has a peculiar method of numbering. It appears that the numbers do not indicate rank, as in other Grand Bodies, but when a lodge ceases to exist its number is given to the next lodge chartered. If No. 1 should cease to exist its number would be given to the next lodge chartered, when really it should be seven hundred and something.

Ten dispensations for new lodges were issued during the year, and five were continued at the previous annual communication.

The Grand Master, in his report, discussed the affairs of the Grand Lodge from a business standpoint.

The financial condition of the Grand Lodge being good, with a large surplus on hand, the Grand Master recommended that one-third thereof be returned to the lodges; instead of which, a committee reported in favor of establishing an "Industrial Home" for the widows and orphans of deceased Masons. Approved by the Grand Lodge, and a committee appointed to invest the funds until required, and to take the necessary preliminaries for an organization.

A report on Foreign Correspondence, covering two hundred and six pages, and embracing a review of the proceedings of fifty-two Grand Lodges—those of Minnesota for 1884 included—was presented by Bro. J. D.—Mr. Printer, be sure and get the letter right this year; last year you had it "J C.," and the good brother says he knows of no such person—Bro. J. D. Vincil, and from the amount of labor bestowed is amply worth the five hundred dollars appropriated by the Grand Lodge.

Under the head of Arkansas, he says—and we say *concurro*:

If our Arkansas brethren are not well governed, it is not because of any scarcity of law. A disposition common to the American mind here finds expression, and is not confined to the Arkansas Grand Lodge, but is met with everywhere and in every association of men. Legislate! More laws! It may not be intended, but the movement results only in the worst kind of confusion. 'Tis simply to confuse confusion, already confounded. Our Masonic legislation should be of the most simple character, and not much of it.

Under the head of Connecticut, we find:

If people want to dance, let them do so as *dancers*, and not as *Masons*. On *Masonic occasions* we appear in our *Masonic character*. On *BALL occasions* let everybody appear there in the style suited to the entertainment, and not in some foreign costume. What business has a Mason at a ball with an *apron* on? Such mixture makes an inharmonious condition. And we do not believe in giving *character* and *consequence* to a dance by parading our "Masonic regalia" before a promiscuous crowd. If the party people want to *draw*, let them not enjoy the benefit of free advertising by the Masonic lodge attracting thither those who

want to see the show. A gentleman can appear at a ball with his swallow-tail on, and a lady may wear her "dolly-varden," if desired. We shall not object. But please keep "Masonic regalia" *out of all* such places. Let Masonry remain distinctive.

Under the head of Kentucky, Bro. Vincil presents a lengthy article showing up the evils attending the later triennial conclaves of Knights Templar. The big show commenced at St. Louis, in 1868. Previous to that time there was a banquet, nothing more; and as the next triennial is to be held at St. Louis, let St. Louis atone for the boom it started by going back to first principles. Let the Representatives dine together, nothing more, and the thinking Sir Knight from everywhere will say, "*Laus Deo.*"

We copy, but do not concur in, the following, found under the head of Michigan:

The plain truth of the matter is, that our constitutions are wrong in requiring certain conditions, or the *prerogative* doctrine is wrong which sets aside those conditions. We mean no reflection upon the intelligence or convictions of American Grand Masters who believe and practice the prerogative doctrine. But, for our own part, we are too much of an AMERICAN to be dazzled by a mere *idea of power*, that places anything above well-digested, safe, practical, solemnly enacted CONSTITUTIONS. Our loyalty to LAW has saved us from the charms and attractions of the syren, whose stock in trade is *power*, and whose only song is "prerogatives." It is about time that this *idea* of power, or "higher law" doctrine, was consigned to its grave by the sturdy conservatism of the American craft. We do not believe it is in harmony with the spirit and genius of our American institutions and laws.

A note of warning. We find, under the head of New Jersey:

We take the liberty of advising the Grand Lodge to be very careful about taking stock in a "Masonic edifice," erected "upon a basis of subscription to a common stock." The Grand Lodge of Missouri took \$10,000 stock in a similar enterprise in this city, in the year 1866. The amount was paid, and the Grand Lodge became a stockholder in the association. Failure followed, the association went into bankruptcy, or something else, and the Grand Lodge was sued for the stock by "innocent parties" who had purchased the bonds. Under the "double liability" law, all stockholders had to pay a second time. The Grand Lodge of Missouri finally unloaded her stock in the association by *paying* it twice, with costs of various and prolonged litigation. After thirteen years, with lawsuits, lawyers' fees, interest, and an outlay of \$20,000 for worthless stock, the Grand Lodge found herself free of debt and em-

barrassment. She is without a "temple debt," and without a temple as well. An experience costing nearly \$30,000 is all we have left for our investment in "a Masonic edifice" in St. Louis.

M. . W. . Robert F. Stevenson, Kansas City, elected Grand Master.

R. . W. . "Rev." John D. Vincil, St. Louis, reëlected Grand Secretary, and is also Committee on Foreign Correspondence.

MISSISSIPPI—1884.

The Sixty-sixth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Mississippi was held at Jackson, Feb. 13, 14 and 15, 1884.

M. . W. . P. M. Savery, G. . M. ., presiding.

Two hundred and forty-one lodges represented.

Three hundred and ninety-three on the roll.

Among the decisions reported, we note:

1. Election to fill vacancy occasioned by death of W. . M. . unnecessary. S. . W. . entitled to discharge the duties.

2. Lodge of initiation has control of a brother until he is a Master Mason. He is their material.

3. Acts of a lodge at a stated communication cannot be *reconsidered* at a subsequent communication. The only way to reach the error (if any) is by resolution.

4. In the absence of any promulgated Masonic law or statute regulating business transactions of a lodge, the mode of procedure is in the discretion of the W. . M. .

5. A non-affiliate cannot be disciplined for non-payment of lodge dues. He owes no dues.

6. A suspended Mason for any cause is not entitled to vote or sit in a lodge during period of suspension; nor is it legal, lawful or Masonic to converse with said suspended Mason upon the secrets of Freemasonry. In Mississippi a Mason legally suspended for non-payment of dues is no exception to the rule above stated.

7. A lodge may be *notified* by its Tyler in person, or by written or printed notice, mailed by the Secretary or published in the columns of a newspaper. A *summons* is not merely a formal *notice*. Should be written or printed; may be signed by the W. . M. ., attested by the Secretary, and under seal of the lodge. It should be served by the Senior Deacon or Tyler in person, and due return made of said service, and all Masons disregarding a lawful summons should be disciplined for violation of the O. B. Lodges are held responsible that a lawful summons is not disregarded.

* * * * *

10. Proffered payment of all indebtedness of a brother Mason, at a stated communication of a lodge, does not entitle him to a dimit if charges are then preferred, or good cause shown why they should be. If a brother knows of any good and sufficient reason why a dimit should not be granted he has the right, and it is his Masonic duty, to object to grant dimit, but he must prefer charges without delay.

11. A dimit once granted cannot be recalled, although charges may be preferred, and the brother holding dimit tried as a non-affiliate.

* * * * *

13. No appeal from decision of a W. L. M., except to Grand Master or Grand Lodge.

We submit an extract from the report of the Committee on Masonic Law and Jurisprudence:

To the question submitted by the Grand Lodge: "Where the Committee on Investigation of a lodge find that a petitioner for initiation is doubtful as to the existence of a God, will it be proper to submit a favorable report in order that an opportunity to withdraw the petition may be given?" we reply: It would not be proper for the committee to report that which they would know to be false. Finding the candidate disqualified, they should so report, and he should be rejected.

The report on Foreign Correspondence was presented by Bro. James M. Howry. Alas! his last report. Two months after the meeting of the Grand Lodge he was buried with Masonic honors at Oxford. We noticed his death in our last report.

Under the head of Maryland, we find:

For some years past we have looked upon the growing practice of some of our zealous brethren, writing everything they could gather about Masonry, as a crying evil, and one that does not, in our judgment, advance the interests of the craft or comport with the teachings which every brother ought to receive at an early stage of his advancement in the Royal Art.

Bro. Tyson says he "does not like to have our private affairs published." If any place on earth should be sacred the lodge room should be that place, and every secret should be kept inviolable. For many leaky vessels are found in lodge rooms of late years, and when a brother is afraid to express his opinion freely about character or anything else in a lodge of brethren, the true men should seek to correct the evil, and we know of but two ways to do it: one is to discipline by expulsion the offender, and the other is to guard the ballot box with greater scrutiny. The gratitude of the craft should be extended to Bro. Tyson.

We were intimate with Bro. Howry for many years, and make no apology for presenting his concluding comments on Minnesota :

Bro. Pierson's report is full of good things. It does not follow that they are all to be utilized at one time. We cannot do it and do justice to other reports. So we leave our excellent brother with the hope that his years may be extended in health, his cup of happiness full, that breakers may not be in his path, that persecutions may not assail him, that their waters may not overflow him, and that he may glide down the stream of life and end his days in serenity.

Under the head of New Hampshire, we find:

On the subject of trying a Mason thrice for the same offense, we ventured a remark which, perhaps, no one has had the temerity to make in this land of liberty, and we may add recklessness, but ourself.

The great principle in the bill of rights, as found in our American constitutions, did not originate with our Revolutionary fathers, but was engrafted into our system of government as an axiom of political faith, coming down, as Bro. Wait says, from our Anglo-Saxon ancestors.

What portion of mankind was this principle intended to benefit? Was it the wise, the noble, the good, the brave, the self-sacrificing, honest, patriotic man? The masses, the authors of civilization and progress? The charitable and trustworthy class of mankind? No! It was the criminal, the lowest and worst grade of society, the murderer, the robber, the thief, the burglar, the incendiary, the swindler, the perjurer, the common law breaker! He must be protected by this great principle of English liberty, engrafted in our American constitution! So, too, the great principle of trial by jury, which has now become a farce, a byword and a reproach to all honest men, and the very thing which the meanest of mankind grasp at as the sheet-anchor of their safety when detected in villainy of any sort! All these great principles are going through the ordeal now—they are subject now to the severest tests ever before applied to them! The masses are taking the law into their own hands and punishing crime with a vengeance, because corrupt judges and bribed jurors fail to execute the law!

Perhaps we were too hasty in saying that the people were ripe for a change or modification of the principle that a man should not be put twice in jeopardy and for the same offense. Could we spare a few pages we would enlarge on this topic; but we simply say, let no Mason escape on this principle. Try him, until justice be done. A murderer who gets off on technicalities is a murderer still, and no brother Mason would like to brother him, and show him with the white lambskin on, as a token of innocence!

M. W. Robert C. Patty, Macon, elected Grand Master.

R. . W. . J. L. Power, Jackson, reëlected Grand Secretary.

The report on Foreign Correspondence for next year will be prepared by Bros. J. M. Stone, Iuka, and John T. Buck, Jackson.

MANITOBA—1884.

The Ninth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Manitoba was held at Winnipeg, Feb. 13 and 14, 1884.

M. . W. . John H. Bell, G. . M. ., presiding.

Eighteen lodges represented.

Twenty-two on the roll.

Six dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

The Grand Master concludes his address with the following:

“The good seed sown with open hand
Is never sown in vain.
Our Father who in Heaven is,
Gives sunshine, dew and rain,
Until the ripening autumn brings
The sheaves of golden grain.
Thus bread upon the waters cast
Comes unto us again.

“No Mason true can walk in vain
Life's pleasant shaded ways,
Not helping those who fainting toil
Or count the workless days ;
For 'soul that gives is soul that lives'
To bear another's load,
Makes light our own, makes short the way,
Makes bright the homeward road.”

Transactions of local interest.

No report on Foreign Correspondence.

M. . W. . John H. Bell reëlected Grand Master.

R. . W. . William G. Scott elected Grand Secretary; both of Winnipeg.

NEW HAMPSHIRE—1884.

The Ninety-fifth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of New Hampshire was held at Concord, May 21, 1884.

M. . W. . J. F. Webster, G. . M. ., presiding.

Fifty-eight lodges represented.

Ninety-four on the roll.

In fitting terms the Grand Master announced the death of P.: G.: M.: J. B. Holbrook. Another "Father in Israel gone." We made his acquaintance in 1856. During his long and useful life he had held the offices of Grand Master, Grand High Priest, Grand Commander, etc.

We present one of the decisions of the Grand Master:

First. What constitutes Masonic residence? My answer has been: The Masonic residence of a man is in fact his legal residence; that is, his home; the place where he has the rights of a citizen; the place where he votes, according to the laws of our State. A man does not gain Masonic residence by residing temporarily in a place for one year; he must make that place his home, that is, his legal home.

Efforts are being made to establish an "Orphans' Home." An act of incorporation has been obtained, officers elected, and strenuous efforts are being made to obtain the necessary funds by voluntary contribution.

Bro. A. S. Wait presented another of his most excellent reports on Foreign Correspondence, in which he reviews in a clear, concise and fraternal style, the proceedings of fifty Grand Lodges, those of Minnesota for 1883 included.

Under the heading of Colorado, he says:

We suppose the relations of a Master of a Masonic lodge to his lodge at labor are very different from the presiding officer of an ordinary assembly to that over which he presides. The province of the latter is simply to preserve order and see that the business proceeds according to recognized rules, while the former, as the name imports and the origin and history of his office demonstrates, is the overseer and director of the work. It is with him alone to determine when the work shall begin and when it shall end. When open for labor, it is his province alone to determine what, or whether any, labor shall be done. The constitutions of Masonry and the particular laws of his lodge are intrusted to his keeping, and he is responsible for their preservation and for their faithful observance. With these powers and these responsibilities, it would seem to us strange if he could not, on any and all occasions, inform the brethren of his views, or if he could not urge upon them what he should conceive to be their Masonic duty. It seems to us the view of this subject taken by the committee has the support of well-established Masonic principle.

We present an extract from his comments on Bro. Gurney's proposition for a Masonic Congress:

On the part of the body itself, we should expect to find it quite willing to accept such amount of authority as might be accorded to it by those claiming for it the largest power, until it would be seen assuming to itself the position and authority of a sovereign body—in short, claiming to be the governing power in symbolic Masonry. If we are mistaken in this, and the body should remain a purely advisory one, never assuming for itself, and there never being claimed for it, any function beyond this, we find it difficult to discover wherein it would be likely to prove of substantial value to the institution at large. Since the institution of Grand Lodges, and especially since the appointment of the Committee on Foreign Correspondence has become general among them, no question of moment to the craft has arisen that has not elicited such an amount of learned discussion as to bring to view whatever may afford to it illustration. What more could be done by an assembly of learned Masons? We confess to an inability to discover.

We present one more selection, we find under the head of Ohio:

In the early practice there was, upon applications for the degrees, neither a ballot (secret or otherwise) nor a show of hands, but each brother expressed his assent or dissent "in his own prudent way." In Chase's edition of Webb's Monitor, after giving the manner of the petition, the response of the candidate to questions propounded, and the information of the same to the lodge, the author proceeds: "If there are then no objections made, the candidate is introduced in due form." It is evident from this that the candidate was received by order of the Master, unless some brother in open lodge objected. The secret ballot is no inherent principle of Masonry, but a modern practice, adopted for convenience, and which any Grand Lodge may, if it chooses, abandon.

What, then, is the reason of the modern practice of the secret ballot so generally adopted? We suppose it quite clear that it is in order to afford a shield from criticism and animadversion to any brother who may, against the wish of the brethren and the friends of the candidate, feel it his duty to object to his reception. Brethren desirous of the admission of a candidate are in no danger of trouble from such source. But if an objecting brother is willing his act and the reason for it should be canvassed publicly, what is there in Masonry or in common reason which forbids him to declare it? It is the right and the privilege of a brother objecting to keep his action secret, but it is a privilege personal to himself, and in which others have no interest. The reason why the casting of a *white* ball cannot be disclosed is because it tends directly to discover who cast the black ones.

M. : W. : J. F. Webster, Grand Master.

R. : W. : George P. Cleaves, Grand Secretary, were each reëlected; both of Concord.

Bro. Albert S. Wait, Newport, Chairman Foreign Correspondence Committee.

NEW JERSEY—1884.

The Ninety-seventh Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of New Jersey was held at Trenton, Jan. 23 and 24, 1884.

M. : W. : "Rev." Henry Vehslage, G. : M. :, presiding.

One hundred and forty lodges represented.

One hundred and fifty-four on the roll.

Among the decisions reported we note:

1st. A by-law of a lodge which exempts a certain class of its members from all pecuniary contribution to its support is unmasonic and improper.

2d. In Masonic trials the testimony of an E. : A. : or F. : C. : should be given in the same manner as that of a profane.

3d. The effect of the first ballot on a petition is final, unless a second ballot is *immediately* ordered.

4th. When one or more members of a lodge are engaged as an examining committee, or upon such other duty as the W. : M. : may have assigned them, the balloting for a candidate which concludes before they are called into the lodgeroom is irregular.

From the report of the Committee on Jurisprudence and Charity we copy:

"Can a man who was made a Mason in Scotland, at the age of eighteen years, sit in a lodge in this jurisdiction before he is twenty-one years of age?"

We reply:

The answer to this question depends upon what is "lawful age" in the jurisdiction of the M. : W. : Grand Lodge of Scotland.

Until information upon this point is received from the proper Masonic authorities in Scotland, the safer course would be to refuse admission to a person under twenty-one years of age.

In some parts of Europe a "Lewis," that is, a son of a Mason, is eligible to the degrees when eighteen years of age. Washington was made a Master Mason when only twenty years of age. It is supposed that his father was a Mason, hence the reason.

Transactions of local interest.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is from the masterly pen of Bro. J. A. Norton, and is a concise review of the proceedings of forty-five Grand Lodges, those of Minnesota for 1883 included.

M. : W. : "and Rev." Henry Vehslage, Irvington, Grand Master.

R. : W. : Joseph H. Hough, Trenton, Grand Secretary; were each reelected.

NEW YORK—1884.

The One Hundred and Third Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of New York was held in the city of New York, June 3, 4 and 5, 1884.

M. : W. : J. Edward Simons, G. : M. : , presiding.

Six hundred and ninety-two lodges represented.

Seven hundred and eighty-eight on the roll.

Although several applications were made for dispensations for new lodges, during the year, the Grand Master "refused in all cases to grant such dispensations, believing that we already have as many lodges in the State as are necessary," and "sincerely hopes this policy will prevail in the future."

The Grand Master reproduced a letter from one of the trustees of the Hall and Asylum Fund, resigning the office upon the ground that "as it is my purpose to be presented to the Grand Lodge, F. : and A. : M. : , as a candidate for the office of Deputy Grand Master," etc. "This letter was published in several of our city newspapers." Of course the party was not, as he should not have been, elected.

While the following quotation from the address of the Grand Master is of not much importance in this jurisdiction, yet we deem it a strong argument against the establishment of lodges working in other than the English language or American Rite :

I respectfully call your attention to the following statement of facts, and ask your most serious consideration of their relation to your own continuance and dignity. There has been formed in this city, during the past year, an organization composed of brethren speaking the German language, the object of which is to set aside the legitimate author-

ity of this Grand Lodge, and to manage the affairs of German speaking Masons without any regard to our laws and regulations. The objects of the association, which has chosen the name of "Veritas," if we may judge by its constitution, is to set at naught your authority over Masonry in this jurisdiction, and leave to the members of the society named, not only their own will in obeying your edicts and laws, but the liberty of proselyting others to their ideas of disobedience and disloyalty. That I may not be accused of any personal or partisan views in this matter, I give you such extracts from the constitution of the society as set forth publicly its ends and aims. One of its earliest declarations is that the association is independent of all higher Masonic tribunals. Again, it appoints as its organ a paper published in the German language, and thus becomes responsible for its utterances, and through it declares that the authority of the Grand Master does not extend beyond the lodge room, and no Mason is bound to pay him deference or to respect his authority except when within a lodge. The society further recommends, through its organ, that its members shall refuse to accept the obligation of a Past Master before installation, for what reason is not made clear, but it is quite certain that it proposes this advice as one of the means by which it will be enabled to set the authority of this Grand Lodge at defiance and thus separate the interests of our German speaking brethren from the rest of the craft under your jurisdiction.

* * * * *

Our German brethren have all the privileges given to others; they may do whatever is accorded by the law to the rest of the brethren. Nay, more: the Grand Lodge has freely allowed them to select their own rituals and ceremonies, and has not required a literal compliance on their part with the regulations, which a failure to observe will not be readily forgiven to the lodges speaking the English language.

We notice that the total income of the Grand Lodge, as per report of the Grand Secretary, amounted to \$85,511.43.

Total number of Masons, 71,338.

The Grand Secretary was authorized to publish the monitorial portion of the work as accepted by the Grand Lodge.

It was made the duty of the District Deputies "to examine and ascertain whether the constitution and statutes and the proceedings of the Grand Body from year to year are preserved among the archives of such lodge."

A very large amount of business was transacted, of local interest.

The report on Foreign Correspondence is, as for years heretofore, prepared by Bro. J. W. Simons. The report embraces a learned review of the proceedings of forty-four Grand Lodges

in the United States, those of Minnesota for 1884 included; six in the Dominion of Canada, and of eighteen others scattered over the Eastern continent and the "Isles of the Sea."

Under the head of Arkansas, relative to dimitts, he says :

We recognize the right of a brother, who stands "square on the books," and against whom no charges are pending at the time, to dimit at pleasure, and the lodge is obliged to respect his wishes. But, on general principles, we hold that the vote to grant a dimit completes the transaction, and that, when the vote has been declared, the membership is absolutely severed, just as it would have been in the case of a lodge taking a vote on the expulsion of a member after trial. The vote expels him, and he no longer belongs to the lodge; nor would the revoking of the order for the dimit make the slightest difference. The certificate of dimit is simply an official declaration that the lodge has taken certain action, but no more affects that action than does a receipt when it can be proved that the money has been paid.

See also Colorado :

Of the New York practice, our rule being that any brother, having paid all money demands and against whom no charges are pending, has an absolute right to sever his connection with his lodge, but not to a certificate of dimit, except for the purpose of joining another lodge in this jurisdiction, to which lodge the dimit is sent; though if he has removed into another jurisdiction, the document is sent to him. This goes to show how far Grand Lodges are from reaching uniformity in practice.

Under Delaware, relative to the right to resign by installed officers:

This involves a subject to which frequent reference has been made in former reports, namely, that while every officer of a lodge is entitled to installation, it is generally admitted that an appointed office-bearer may be removed by the appointing power, while an elected one may not until after due trial and conviction. For example, the Tyler is installed, the same as the other officers, though it is not absolutely necessary that he be a member of the lodge for which he tyles; the power of the Master to remove him, notwithstanding his installation, cannot be questioned, and, *pari passu*, his right to resign lies within his own discretion; and so of other appointed officers. The right to resign carries with it the right to dimit.

Under the head of Minnesota, he says:

The annual report of Grand Secretary Pierson is a model of what ought to be done in the discharge of his and similar official duties, and goes to show that he knows all the matters devolving upon him. The

only trouble with us is to know how in —— he gets through all the things pressing upon him.

System, patience and perseverance, twelve to fourteen hours per day, *every* day.

Under the head of Oregon, we find :

Under No. 2, our M. . W. . brother says that "it is a landmark of Masonry that no candidate shall be advanced until he shall be found proficient in the preceding degrees." We respectfully beg to differ. The examination of candidates as to proficiency is purely modern and grows out of local regulations; and this will be all the more readily understood when it is remembered that in the earlier part of this present century the whole three degrees were conferred in less time than it now takes to confer one. For more than forty years past we have been piling up regulations and adding notions to the ritual, none of which were known in the early days, and most, if not all, of which have been evolved from the inner consciousness of parties desirous of improving on the original plan.

We admit the power of a Grand Lodge to make local regulations to suit itself, but we deny that they are or can be considered landmarks, of which we already have too many, and besides, a strong disposition, on the slightest provocation, to create others. Hence, while in these latter days, when steam and electricity are part of our daily life, it may be well to check the pace by reasonable delays, it is quite certain that nothing of the sort existed in the early days, because there was no need in that direction, and therefore now, a proper and excellent regulation is in no sense a landmark.

Under Virginia, he says:

This, it will be seen, assumes that suspension for any cause whatever destroys membership, against which we always have and ever shall protest, as foreign to the sentiments of justice and fair play, as well as the accepted meaning of English words.

Suspension always has been understood to be temporary in its nature, having a term to be reached in the ordinary course of events, or otherwise it is the same as expulsion, and one or the other should be stricken from our code. Hence, a member suspended does not lose his rights, except for a time, and when that time expires he returns to his former status, or at least, in common fairness, should do so, without further action of the lodge.

M. . W. . William A. Brodie, Geneseo, elected Grand Master.

R. . W. . E. M. L. Ehlers, New York, reëlected Grand Secretary.

Bro. John W. Simons, Brooklyn, Chairman Foreign Correspondence Committee.

NORTH CAROLINA—1884.

The Ninety-seventh Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of North Carolina was held at Raleigh, Jan. 8, 9 and 10, 1884.

M. . W. . Robert Bingham, G. . M. ., presiding.

Eighty-one lodges represented.

Three hundred and seventy-nine on the roll.

Nine dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

The address of the Grand Master, and the business of the Grand Lodge generally, had reference to the Orphan Asylum, which now appears to be on a firm financial basis. The legislature of the State made an appropriation of five thousand dollars toward its support.

No report on Foreign Correspondence.

M. . W. . Robert Bingham, Bingham School, Grand Master.

R. . W. . Donald W. Bain, Raleigh, Grand Secretary; were both reëlected.

NEBRASKA—1884.

The Twenty-seventh Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Nebraska was held at Lincoln, June 24 and 25, 1884.

M. . W. . Samuel Hayes, G. . M. ., presiding.

Ninety-five lodges represented.

One hundred and twelve on the roll, seven of which have either joined in the formation of other Grand Lodges or had ceased to work.

Sixteen dispensations for new lodges issued during the year; several other applications received too late for action before the annual communication.

Among the decisions reported, we note:

1. One of our new lodges, previous to the issue of its charter, asked to change the name. I decided that the Grand Lodge (having ordered the charter under the name already given) alone had authority to change it.

2. Query. Can a lodge reconsider a vote for the election of officers?

Answer. Yes, if done at the same meeting, with all the members present who were present when the election was held.

3. Query. Can a lodge in this jurisdiction receive a petition for initiation from a resident of Kansas?

Answer. Yes, if it has the consent of the lodge having jurisdiction.

4. Query. Can a Master Mason residing in another State legally become a member of a lodge in Nebraska?

Answer. Yes.

5. Query. Is the avouchment of the Grand Custodian sufficient, having sat in a lodge of instruction with the brother?

Answer. Yes.

6. Elections must be held at the time set by the Grand Lodge. Grand Master cannot issue dispensation prior to that time.

7. Query. Is it lawful to receive a petition from a saloonkeeper?

Answer. No.

8. Query. Does a lodge U. V. D. lose jurisdiction over applicants for the degrees by the expiration of its dispensation.

Answer. No. Upon receiving its charter it has a right to complete its work.

9. Query. Can the Master of a lodge annul the decision of his lodge?

Answer. No. He must appeal to the Grand Lodge or Grand Master.

10. Query. Is it lawful for a lodge U. V. D. to appear in public as a lodge, except at a funeral?

Answer. Not without permission of the Grand Master.

11. A rejected applicant must present a new petition, which, in all respects, must take the same course as in the first instance.

12. A brother suspended for non-payment of dues has no right to visit a lodge in this jurisdiction.

13. Query. Can a lodge dimit an Entered Apprentice or a Fellow Craft?

Answer. No. Dimits apply only to members of the lodge.

14. Query. A brother is suspended for non-payment of dues, whose lodge afterward surrendered its charter. How can the brother regain his standing in the fraternity?

Answer. Apply to the Grand Lodge.

15. Query. Can the refusal of a brother to pay special assessments, even when made to pay expenses incurred in the care of the sick, subject the brother to lodge discipline?

Answer. No. Such duties are to be performed freely and of his own accord, and as far as his ability will permit. No good Mason will refuse or neglect *this*, one of the *first* and most *imperative* duties of Masonry.

16. It is morally the duty of a brother to prefer charges against an applicant for advancement whom he desires to prevent being advanced, and especially so when the brother has become a non-resident and asks for a waiver of jurisdiction.

17. Query. Has a lodge the right to require of a member of a committee on a petition his reasons for reporting unfavorably on the application?

Answer. No.

18. Query. Was the Master right in declaring the proceedings of his lodge illegal, neither himself nor either of the Wardens being present?

Answer. Yes; Masonic law and usage so declare it.

The Grand Master closes his address with:

For what'er of good we do,
It is but duty done;
If a sorrow we've lightened,
Or a tear wiped away —
If of poverty's load
We have taken a share
From some weary and desolate soul —
If we've lifted the cup of cold water
To the lips of some famishing brother —
Then in so much
We've done as the Master commanded,
And may hope,
When life's journey is ended,
That charity's pure sunlight
Will guide us
To mansions of rest and refreshment
In the Grand Lodge above.

The day preceding the annual communication the Grand Lodge dedicated the new Masonic Hall at Lincoln, and on July 15th laid the corner stone of the new State capitol at the same place, on which occasion P. . G. . M. . Robert Furnass, and ex-governor, delivered an address eulogistic of, and replete with, statistical information relative to the growth and capabilities of Nebraska—an excellent emigration document, prefaced with excellent reasons why the fraternity of Freemasons should lay the corner stones of public buildings.

No report on Foreign Correspondence.

M. . W. . John J. Wemple, Hastings, elected Grand Master.

And, of course, the model Grand Secretary, who has done more than any other one brother to place the Grand Lodge of Nebraska on its elevated position, financially, masonically, etc.

R. . W. . William R. Bowen, Omaha, reelected.

NEVADA—1884.

The Twentieth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Nevada was held at the city of Virginia, June 10 and 11, 1884.

M. . W. . Andrew Nicholls, G. . M. ., presiding.

Thirteen lodges represented.

Twenty-two on the roll.

The Grand Master's report is a brief business paper. He congratulates the Grand Lodge "that intemperance does not prevail to any great extent in this jurisdiction."

On account of financial matters it was determined that the proceedings of the Grand Lodge should only be published biennially.

Transactions of local interest.

A most excellent report on Foreign Correspondence, embracing a review of the proceedings of fifty-three Grand Lodges, those of Minnesota for 1882 and 1883, inclusive, was presented by that "prince of good fellows," Bro. J. D. Hammond.

M. . W. . David E. Bailey, Eureka, elected Grand Master.

"V. . W. . " John D. Hammond, Carson, reelected Grand Secretary, and is also Chairman Foreign Correspondence Committee.

NEW MEXICO—1883.

The Sixth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of New Mexico was held at Silver City, Dec. 11, 12 and 13, 1883.

M. . W. . John B. Wootten, G. . M. ., presiding.

Six lodges represented.

Ten on the roll.

Two dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

Four Past Grand Masters present.

We concur with the Grand Master in the following, an extract from his address:

It has been brought to my notice that some of the brethren have been using and exposing in the lodge room a cipher work. Such actions cannot be too strongly condemned, and a Master that will use or suffer such works to be used in his lodge should be suspended from office, and the brethren using them should be disciplined.

Among the decisions reported, we note:

1st. That a brother who has been elected and installed as Worshipful Master, or as Warden, of a lawfully constituted lodge in another Grand jurisdiction is eligible to the office of Worshipful Master in this.

2d. That it was unmasonic for a lodge to occupy a hall in common with another or other associations non-masonic.

3d. That the first ballot on the petition of an applicant for the mys-

teries of Masonry (in case no black ball appears) elects for the three degrees. The candidate does not petition for one, two or three degrees, but he declares he freely and voluntarily offers himself a candidate for the mysteries of Masonry. Now, that includes all the rights, lights and benefits that can be conferred in a lodge of Master Masons, and nothing less. The initiation does not stop and is not complete until the candidate has taken the third or Master Mason's degree.

8th. That the Worshipful Master of a lodge U. . D. . cannot resign, and the action of the lodge in accepting his resignation is null and void.

10th. That in the burial of a deceased brother by a Masonic lodge, or in the performance of other Masonic labor in public, the control by the lodge must be complete; and, while the lodge is exercising that control, no non-masonic association will be permitted to participate. This, of course, does not exclude religious exercises by ministers of the Gospel, nor does it prohibit non-masonic associations from following in the procession. This question was brought up by an actual case in Las Vegas, wherein two other associations, non-masonic, had appointed pall bearers and insisted on taking part in the ceremonies. Being present at the time, I decided as above, and directed the Masonic lodge to take absolute control. Now, it is well known that in the whole conduct of funeral ceremonies the lodge is at labor. It is not called off for the procession, but is at work in open lodge. It is equally well known that Masons cannot turn out in public unless they have certain specified work to do and have sole charge of that work. So far as funeral services are concerned, the lodge cannot perform them at all unless it takes sole and absolute charge. Now, the question is, can we permit a non-masonic association to unite with us in the performance of Masonic labor. If we can allow it in our funeral ceremonies, we can with equal propriety allow it in the lodge room.

11th. That a lodge of Masons cannot turn out as a lodge and attend the funeral of a deceased brother when the burial services are conducted by the Knights Templar.

Charges were preferred against the Deputy Grand Master. The Grand Lodge declared that it had original jurisdiction, and adopted a code of procedure for the trial of Grand officers.

A report on Foreign Correspondence embraces a review of the proceedings of forty-two Grand Lodges; those of Minnesota have no place. The report was presented by Bro. D. J. Miller, but appears, from the initial attached to the review of each State, to have been the joint labors of several parties. The Grand Lodge of California adopted resolutions denouncing Mormonism. The New Mexico reviewer, in his comments, gives a little piece of history. We copy, as it may be interesting to some:

This calls us back in memory to our early boyhood. We (H.) were born within fifteen miles of Mormon Hill, in New York State, on the side of which Joe Smith found his Golden Bible, and it is no joke that we have seen the hole from which he exhumed it. The circumstances were thus:

Joe Smith, who was a prophet of the Lord, had taken up his residence with his brother, who owned a farm and lived in a red house at the foot of the hill, since christened "Mormon Hill." One night he was awakened from his sleep by an angel, who appeared in a halo of light, and ordered him to take his spade and depart at once to a spot, to which he would be directed, and dig. He obeyed, and was directed to the side of the hill, when he set about his labor; but he was not to succeed without adventure. When he had sunk some three or four feet his spade struck something which gave back a hollow sound, when lo! on the instant the devil appeared and attacked him with such ferocity that he was forced to flee for his life. The next night the angel again appeared and ordered him back to his work, with the assurance that his labor would not go unrewarded. He went at once, but the devil again appeared, with more ferocity than before, and again he was compelled to flee. The third night the angel was there again, and ordered him to go once more, assuring him that if he would resist the devil he would flee before him, and then he would secure an invaluable treasure. He went, and he whipped the devil in a regular stand-up fight. Then he lifted the cover, and lo! the Golden Bible. Now, this story is strictly true, or else Joe Smith was a liar, and Martin Harris, his head apostle, was a credulous fool. But whatever Joe Smith was, Harris was an honest man, and they both assiduously traveled about the country basing their new religion on this story.

In later years it became public that one Spalding, an Episcopal clergyman, wrote the book, and that Sidney Rigdon, a friend of Smith, having obtained a copy of the manuscript, the two conceived the idea of establishing a new religion upon it. So much for what we know of the origin of this system that is stirring up such a mess in the world.

Now, *in re* of the preamble as above, we understand that there are two sects of Mormons—one that may be termed the Brigham Youngites, who not only tolerate but recommend and practice polygamy; the others the Smithites, who claim that polygamy is a new invention, and not at all a part of the true Mormon religion. Except as to polygamy, we see nothing particularly odious, so far as we know, in the Mormon church but what may be found in other churches, but as Masonry has no fight against any class of religionists as such, we see no special reason why the *Smithites* should be debarred from entering our doors. As to polygamists, they are regular, acknowledged law-breakers, and should be tabooed by every law-abiding citizen.

The report is a very good one, covering one hundred and ninety-five pages.

M. . W. . William B. Childers, Albuquerque, elected Grand Master.

R. . W. . David J. Miller, Sante Fe, reelected Grand Secretary. But who is Grand Secretary? Bro. Miller has been, from the organization of the Grand Lodge, and a very energetic and effective one, and was reelected as above; but a "Notice," attached to the title page of the proceedings, says: "The address of the Grand Secretary is, A. A. Keen, Las Vegas, New Mexico." Now, who is Grand Secretary?

NEW BRUNSWICK—1884.

The Seventeenth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of New Brunswick was held at St. John, April 22 and 23, 1884.

M. . W. . William F. Bunting, G. . M. ., presiding.

Twenty-one lodges represented.

Thirty-two on the roll.

The address of the Grand Master occupies twenty-five pages. He holds that honorary membership is limited to voting only; that a Worshipful Master has the right to call upon any brother to assist in the conferring of degrees; that every prerogative exercised is an inherent one, and that there is no appeal from his decision.

Transactions of local interest.

No report on Foreign Correspondence.

M. . W. . John V. Ellis, elected Grand Master.

R. . W. . Edwin J. Wetmore, reelected Grand Secretary; both of St. John.

NOVA SCOTIA—1884.

The Nineteenth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Nova Scotia was held at Halifax, June 4 and 5, 1884.

"M. . W. . Maj. Gen. J. W. Laurie," G. . M. ., presiding.

Thirty-nine lodges represented.

Seventy-seven on the roll.

One dispensation for a new lodge issued during the year.

Relative to the signing of the minutes the Grand Master decided that "the officer actually presiding at the time the minutes are read, to sign at once, as a proof of the fact of the acceptance

of their accuracy by the brethren present." On another matter the Grand Master says:

I am still most happy to report that no practical inconvenience is experienced by the continued existence among us of Royal Standard Lodge, under the jurisdiction of the Grand Lodge of England. This is to be ascribed to the true Masonic feeling to be found in that lodge, as well as amongst our own members.

'Tis said that comparisons are invidious; hence, we forbear. But does not the foregoing contain an insinuation that a true Masonic feeling does not exist in some other jurisdictions!

The following amendment to the regulations was adopted:

Section 11. District Deputy Grand Masters who shall have discharged their duties for two years to the satisfaction of the Grand Master, and who shall be specially recommended by him for the honor, may receive, by vote of Grand Lodge, the rank of Past District Deputy Grand Master.

The Committee on Foreign Correspondence presented a report, embracing a review of the proceedings of forty-nine Grand Lodges, those of Minnesota for 1883 and 1884 included.

Under the head of District of Columbia, we find:

The practice of estopping or objecting to the advancement of an E. . A. . or F. . C. . (not known here) seems to be giving some trouble to brethren in sister jurisdictions. We fear that the ballot box is not sufficiently exercised in the first instance; hence, much subsequent unpleasantness to the lodge.

Under the head of Quebec, we find:

We have a lodge, it is true, in our midst, not unde rour obedience; but then this is purely a matter of convenience; its material is ever changing—here to-day, away to-morrow. We permit the existence of this lodge in our midst, because it is to the especial interest of its members to retain their connection with the Grand Lodge at home, and for no other reason. We live in perfect harmony with this lodge, because its members are honorable men, and because our rejected material never has been, and we feel assured, never will be, accepted by it in a spirit of opposition. Of this fine lodge we are quite willing to say: *semper floreat*, and it will no doubt flourish and exist here *quamdiu se bene gesserit*.

A very readable report; and, although three names are at-

tached to it, we suspect that it is the handiwork of Bro. D. C. Moore.

M. . W. . J. W. Laurie, Oakfield, Grand Master.

R. . W. . Benjamin Curren, Halifax, Grand Secretary; were both reëlected.

Bro. Rev. D. C. Moore, Stellarton, Chairman Foreign Correspondence Committee.

OHIO — 1884.

The Seventy-fifth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Ohio was held at Columbus, Oct. 21, 22 and 23, 1884.

M. . W. . Joseph M. Goodspeed, G. . M. ., presiding.

Four hundred and fifty-one lodges represented.

Five hundred and thirty-three on the roll.

Three dispensations for new lodges issued during the year, and seventy-eight for other purposes.

Among the decisions reported, we note:

1. When a brother pleads guilty to charges preferred, it is not necessary for the lodge to take a ballot on the question of guilt. The lodge may proceed at once to fix the penalty.

2. There is no Masonic law that will prevent a brother engaged in selling liquor being installed as one of the officers of a lodge, provided he does not sell in violation of law. Selling liquor is not in itself an offense, but selling in violation of the statutes governing the sale of liquor subjects the brother to Masonic discipline.

3. The Grand Master cannot grant a dispensation or issue his proxy to anyone to confer the three degrees of Masonry in less time than that prescribed by the code. He alone has the power to make Masons at sight, as heretofore determined.

4. An applicant must reside one year within the jurisdiction of a lodge before he can petition for and receive the degrees. To confer the degrees on a residence of less time would be a violation of rule 31 of the code.

5. When a petition is received for the degrees, the committee appointed to investigate must be composed of members whose names do not appear on the petition as recommending the applicant.

6. The reinstallation of a Master reëlected to the same office is not absolutely necessary. He may preside without being reinstalled. I would recommend installation in all cases.

* * * * *

11. The lodge can accept the resignation of any officer except the W. . M. ., S. . W. . or J. . W. .

12. The Worshipful Master may direct any competent committee to prepare the candidate.

* * * * *

15. *Decided*—That it requires eight members of the lodge to be present before a lodge can be opened, and that no business can be transacted unless eight M. . M. . be in attendance.

16. I replied that I knew of no reason why a Mason who had committed suicide should be denied Masonic burial. Dethroned reason calls for our sympathy, not for our censure. How better can we heal the wounds of the afflicted than by depositing the evergreen as an emblem of our faith in the immortality of the soul?

All approved by the Grand Lodge. Wonder what Missouri will say to No. 2?

The corner stone of a Government office was laid by the Grand Lodge on the first day of the session.

From a report of the Committee on Jurisprudence we present :

"Would it be proper for the committee having charge of the York Rite Masonic halls to rent the use of the same to the Cernean Scotch Rite bodies, lately established in Columbus, for the purpose of conferring the A. . & A. . S. . Rite grades?"

In accordance with the regulations of this Grand Lodge, the hall committee should be satisfied that the body desiring "joint occupancy" is a Masonic body within the meaning of the code, section 79; and in case no such evidence is attainable by said committee, their answer would be, No.

The following quotation is a reprint of a report of the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence, adopted in 1853 :

That the practice of conferring what are called *Side Degrees* upon the wives, daughters and sisters of Masons is a modern practice, unknown to ancient craft Masonry.

These so-called *Side Degrees* being neither Masonry nor in the similitude of Masonry, your committee deem that the conferring of them *as Masonry* is an imposition on the ladies upon whom they are conferred, as well as upon the craft, whose rites and ceremonies they dishonor by a jargon of modern humbug.

Your committee have no objection to the formation of associations by the wives, daughters and sisters of Masons, with signs and ceremonies by which to recognize each other or make themselves known to Masons, but they do *protest* against such signs and ceremonies being given *by Masons as Masonry*. It is a feminine business, and should be left to the ladies alone.

Your committee therefore report that the conferring by Masons what are called *Side Degrees* in Masonry is unmasonic, an imposition on

those upon whom they are conferred, and dishonorable to the craft. Therefore,

Resolved, That any brother conferring the so-called *Side Degrees* is, in all cases, a proper subject of Masonic discipline.

The report of Bro. Gurney, of Illinois, on the Memphis Rites, was read, and it was moved:

WHEREAS, At the annual meeting of the Grand Lodge of F. & A. . Masons of the State of Illinois, a special committee made an important report on the subject of clandestine Masonic organizations, especially relating to the so-called "Masonic Rite of Memphis," of which one Daniel Wilson is the head, and the "Ancient and Primitive Rite of Memphis," of which Alexander B. Mott is the head; and,

WHEREAS, The said report contains statements and facts of vital interest to the welfare, peace and prosperity of the Masonic Order generally; therefore, be it

Resolved, That said report, and the resolution adopted by the Grand Lodge of Illinois, printed copy of the same herewith submitted, be referred to the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence.

The resolution was laid on the table.

The report on Foreign Correspondence, presented by Bro. R. E. Richards, is one of the best that we have read. It embraces a review of the proceedings of fifty-seven Grand Lodges, those of Minnesota for 1883 included. Bro. Richards says it occupied "fifty-seven working days (nights)" in its preparation. He favors the "cube" in balloting for candidates; thinks an "abdominal rupture" is not a disqualification; thinks there is but little practical utility in the Representative system between Grand Lodges.

Under the head of Connecticut, he says:

The war of rites is being waged in some quarters with a bitterness equaled only by its senselessness. Not content with a legitimate and honorable warfare, the A. . & A. . seeks to create disturbances in the Grand Lodges. What they may do among themselves, we care not. We believe the one (Memphis) to be as legitimate and as much entitled to countenance as the other (A. . & A. .). As Master Masons, we have nothing to do with either. For some time past we have had grave fears lest some overzealous 33° would attempt to introduce the subject into the Grand Lodge of Ohio. We trust it may never come, and, in fact, believe the good sense of the members of the Grand Lodge would promptly stamp out the first symptom of a movement in that direction.

Bro. Richards, you are laboring under a wrong impression, in your comments under the head of Dakota. There are generally two sides to a story. It is well to hear both sides before promulgating an opinion, particularly if a reflection is therein contained.

Under the head of Indiana, we find:

Well, the one-ballot rule does not suit everybody. We never knew a law, rule or custom that did. We do say, however, that two-thirds of the American Grand Lodges have adopted it, and, so far as we are informed, with the exception noted above, are pleased with its workings. See quotation from Bro. Drummond, under Maine.

Under the head of Minnesota, we find:

Having examined the Grand Master's address, we are prepared to say that it is a model in its way; terse, almost to a fault; right to the point; shorn of all flourishes. His introductory could not well be shorter, without being omitted altogether: "Brethren of the Grand Lodge: I have now the honor to submit to you my annual report." That, and nothing more, except "business," which immediately follows.

It would please us immensely, Bro. Richards, to meet you in our sanctum. Among the four hundred, and upward, faces that adorn the walls, you would recognize many with which you are familiar, and others that have gone home. Of your own State, Putnam, Hubbard, Jarvis, Kent, etc., etc. We will extend a Minnesota welcome.

Under the head of Montana, he says:

It was our intention, at the beginning of this report, to leave the "Bible question" out entirely. We are satisfied, owing to a wide diversity of views, in which all are doubtless sincere, that its discussion in a Masonic paper will result in no good to Masonry; not that our own opinions have changed, except to become strengthened in what we have heretofore said; not that we fear any ill results to the institution from such discussions, any more than good results; but because we wish to respect the opinions of such of our brethren as honestly differ with us. Masonry may be a sort of religion, as some writers have asserted—a universal religion, in which all men who believe in the existence of a Supreme Being can agree, but it is not Christianity as distinguished from Judaism; there is no sectarianism about it. Hence, religion and religious subjects, as well as politics and political subjects, are tabooed by every principle, edict and regulation of Masonry. Belief or non-belief in the divine authorship of the Bible does not make one a better or a worse Mason. Such being the case, we will hold to our beliefs, you may hold to yours, and let it drop at that. You are a good Mason, we

are not a bad one, on account of our differences on questions of theology.

Under New Jersey:

There is a disposition on the part of reviewers to deprecate the publication of "official decisions." The fact is, in reading book after book and finding string after string of decisions reported, many of them mere repetitions, they become surfeited, as it were, and conclude that the "decision business" is being run for more than it is worth. A second thought, however, convinces us that this is not wholly true. Grand Lodge legislation is influenced largely by thoughts and points brought out in the examination of the different decisions reported by Grand Masters and approved by Grand Lodges. The correspondence reporters spread out the facts before their respective readers, and thus the benefit becomes mutual. If we discover a new idea, or an old idea clothed in new words, we copy and present it for the inspection of others, because the same thought appears in different lights to different eyes.

In addition to the foregoing, new men are coming to the front, and younger men that have not read the reports of former years. It becomes necessary to repeat for their instruction.

M. . W. . Joseph M. Goodspeed, Athens, Grand Master.

R. . W. . John D. Caldwell, Cincinnati, Grand Secretary; were reëlected.

Bro. R. E. Richards, Toledo, Chairman Foreign Correspondence Committee.

OREGON—1884.

The Thirty-fourth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Oregon was held at Portland, June 10, 11 and 12, 1884.

M. . W. . W. T. Wright, G. . M. ., presiding.

Sixty-seven lodges represented.

Eighty on the roll.

Two dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

The Grand Master refused permission to a lodge, as such, to join in a procession on the Fourth of July; and decided that installation by proxy was not legal.

In 1883 the Grand Lodge adopted a resolution looking to the procuring of a history of each of its lodges. We copy the circulars sent out by the Grand Secretary in furtherance of the proposition:

To the Worshipful Master, Wardens and Brethren of — Lodge No. —

BRETHREN: At the annual communication of the M. . W. . Grand Lodge, A. . F. . & A. . M. ., held in Portland, June 11th to 13th, A. . L. . 5883, a resolution was adopted requiring the Grand Secretary to prepare a circular to the lodges in the jurisdiction, requiring each lodge to appoint some competent brother to write a history of their respective lodges, giving a short biographical sketch of each of its charter members, and also of its Worshipful Masters, from organization of the lodge to date, and also any and every incident connected with the early history of the lodge, which may be of interest to the craft. The history, when so prepared, to be forwarded to the Grand Secretary, and be by him carefully preserved and reported to the Grand Lodge at its next annual communication.

Permit me to urge upon you the necessity of prompt action in this matter. Choose your best member for this purpose; one who has the ability to prepare the history, and one who will give it his immediate attention. It is my desire to submit to the Grand Lodge, at its next annual communication, a complete history of every lodge in the jurisdiction.

* * * * *

DEAR BROTHER: By resolution of the Grand Lodge, the Grand Secretary is required to procure, during the present year, a biographical sketch of all Past Grand Masters, Past Deputy Grand Masters and Past Grand Wardens of the Grand Lodge of Oregon. You will please forward to this office, at your earliest convenience, your name in full; when and where born; the dates and places where you have resided; the date and place of taking the several Masonic degrees; what Masonic offices you have filled, and in what Masonic bodies, with date of each; your present residence, and also any incidents connected with your history which may be of interest to the craft.

We regard the foregoing as a matter of considerable moment. How often do we find a Grand Master announcing the decease of a Past Grand Master with the remark: "He served the Grand Lodge in such a year. I am in possession of no other facts." The great newspaper offices have prepared, and ready for use, biographical sketches of distinguished men, leading politicians, military officers, prelates, etc., etc. How little we know of the history of Masonry, or of those who have borne the heat and burthen of the day. Manuscripts such as proposed by the Grand Lodge of Oregon should be on file in the office of every Grand Secretary.

The report on Foreign Correspondence was presented by P. . G. . M. . S. F. Chadwick. He has somehow contrived to, in

one hundred and seven pages, embody a most excellent report—each of his are. Minnesota received a kindly notice.

Under the head of Canada, we find:

Among the offenses that call for discipline are drunkenness and profligacy, fighting, cruelty to wife or child, and many others that are patent crimes. We enumerate some of those that are winked at. Slander is not mentioned, but it is inferred. Of all the tongues that should be split, or torn out, it is that of the scandal monger and slanderer, male or female. No lady, however, ever scandalizes anybody, nor does a gentleman; of course, no Mason would do so. Cruelty to wife or child: When we see a Mason neglect his wife and child or children, we wonder that he is allowed to remain in the lodge room long enough to be led out by the ear, and yet there are some who find easy seats among the brethren.

Under Louisiana, he says:

Our brother cannot see how any number of Masons could give a non-affiliate deceased brother formal Masonic burial, otherwise than as a lodge, unless there was some special law enacted for that purpose. We will put this question to Bro. Fleming: Suppose a non-affiliate, in good standing as a Mason, who had applied for membership before the proper lodge and been rejected, should ask of a Master Mason, or of a few Master Masons, at death, for Masonic burial; would it be denied to him because he was not a lodge member? It certainly ought not to be. Lodge membership or not, every worthy Master Mason should receive this last sad rite who asks for it, and the lodge has no more to do with it than if the request had been made to non-affiliates only in good standing. It is the duty of one Mason to another that governs.

Under Minnesota, he says:

If the brother is discharged on some technicality or informality in the proceedings, he may be tried again. But if he is tried on the merits and is acquitted, he cannot be tried again for the same offense. Grand Master Benton is correct in his ruling on this point.

We share in regrets with Bro. Chadwick at not meeting in San Francisco. One, and the main, object we had in view was to make the acquaintance of brethren on the Pacific Coast, with whom we had been in correspondence but had never met personally. Our health was not good—heart trouble; did not participate in any of the excursions or festivities; kept very close to our room, and left for home before the close of the conclave, as Dr. Murphy—our Dr. Murphy—advised us to start for home

soon, as he did not want to bring us home in a box. Of course, the good wife became anxious, and we put for home—having accomplished but little for which we made the journey.

Under the head of New Hampshire, he says:

It is true, when the verdict of a jury is rendered in a criminal case, it is final on the question of guilt or innocence—waiving all questions of fraud. But when the case is one which the Grand Lodge deals with, the defendant must be innocent or he must be punished. If one trial does not bring out the facts, another may be had. The verdict of a lodge is not to deprive the defendant of his liberty, or to fine him in a sum of money; but the object of the lodge is to sever connection with the guilty, and if it cannot be done at one time it may be done at another.

Under Tennessee:

When is the brother tried for unmaasonic conduct? Not until he has committed suicide. Why permit a voluntary drunkard to remain in good standing until he kills himself? Is not the lodge estopped from saying he is not entitled to Masonic burial, if he died in good standing in the lodge? That he died from his own hand should not debar him of Masonic burial, if he was otherwise worthy. If a lodge will hold a member up before the world as a Mason in good standing, who voluntarily gets drunk, and beastly so at that, we say bury him Masonically, if he dies drunk or by his own hand.

M. . W. . David P. Mason, Albany, elected Grand Master.

R. . W. . F. J. Babcock, Salem, reelected Grand Secretary.

PENNSYLVANIA—1884.

The pamphlet before us contains an abstract of the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania during the year 1884.

Most of the business of this Grand Lodge is transacted at the quarterly communications, the annual, being devoted to the finishing up of the business of the year and the installation of Grand officers.

One feature in the proceedings of this Grand Lodge that, we think, might be with propriety copied by other Grand Lodges: The Committee on Appeals and Grievances, while stating the cases coming before them, give neither the names of the party appellant, or the lodge.

The committee reported the estimated receipts of the Grand Lodge for 1885 at \$129,572.08.

We notice that the stewards of the Stephen Girard Charity Fund have extended relief to a brother hailing from Minnesota, to the amount of twenty dollars.

Grand Master Conrad B. Day, on retiring from the position, delivered a very interesting address. He says:

The first innovation which tends to a violation of our ancient usages, customs and landmarks is like a small break along the banks of a mighty river—scarcely noticeable, but, if allowed to go unchecked, soon becomes the huge crevasse, which permits the inundation of the surrounding country, and so changes its condition and appearance as to prevent its recognition.

Thus will our usages, customs and landmarks be obliterated if every attempt at change or innovation is not promptly checked and eradicated.

* * * * *

On January 7th, accompanied by most of the Grand officers and several Past Grand Masters, we paid an informal visitation to Harmony Lodge, No. 52, on which occasion we exercised our prerogatives as Grand Master, under the authority conferred upon us by the Ahiman Rezon, or constitution of the Grand Lodge, and caused a youth under the age of twenty-one years to be made a Mason by virtue of our presence.

The Grand officers assisted in conferring the degrees. The candidate possessed all the necessary qualifications. He was "the son of honest parents, a perfect youth without maim or defect in his body, and capable of learning the mysteries of the art."

His character and standing in society was well known to me. He has since become a member of the lodge by petition and ballot.

* * * * *

Upon an examination of this book by Bro. MacCalla, he found it to be Liber B, or Ledger of St. Johns Lodge, Free and Accepted Masons, Philadelphia, from February, 1731-1738; containing the general cash account of the lodge, as well as the accounts between the lodge and its members.

This book, no doubt the oldest Masonic book which has thus far been discovered on this continent, bears on its face the evidences of an original record. Its great value to us consists in its corroborating all that has been claimed and proved in behalf of Philadelphia as the "Mother City of Freemasonry in America." So important and valuable did this book in my judgment appear, that I had a number of its pages phototyped, and sent a copy to every Grand Lodge with which this Grand Lodge is in fraternal communication.

Most of the Grand Lodges have acknowledged the receipt of the phototype, and have expressed great satisfaction at its reception.

As to the latter, we very much regret that Minnesota has not had an opportunity to acknowledge the receipt of the phototype. It would be highly prized in this jurisdiction.

Relative to Masonic funerals, he quotes from the Ahiman Rezon:

"When a lodge is called out to attend the funeral of a member, it shall have precedence of all other associations and societies."

"The Masonic ceremonies must take immediate precedence after the religious services, and, when performed, the lodge must leave the grounds."

The report on Foreign Correspondence embraces a review of the proceedings of fifty Grand Lodges, those of Minnesota for 1883 included. It would be supererogation to say more of the report than that it was presented by P. · G. · M. · Richard Vaux, our Representative near the Grand Lodge of Pennsylvania. He says, in commencing his report:

Brethren, may Harmony take up her abode within your borders; Peace dwell in your temples; Prosperity bless your jurisdictions; wise counsels direct your proceedings; forbearance and accord govern your deliberations.

Actuated by the earnest desire and united intention to legislate for the maintenance and preservation of the cardinal principles of Masonry, the way is ever thus opened for securing such results.

Holding fast to the ancient landmarks, rejecting all innovations, crucifying the first suggestions of novelties, forbidding any subtle design "*to reform*" the usages and customs of the craft, let our inheritance remain as first delivered into the keeping of our forefathers.

Let it be the test of our title that it has outlived the languages of past ages, the memory of man running not to the contrary, and so we hold it now.

There can be no higher, purer or more glorious motive to animate our best and surest purpose to preserve our work and ceremonial than our faith in its origin and our reverence for its antiquity.

* * * * *

The antiquity of our institution stimulating in our hearts the desire, and strengthening our intelligence to perpetuate it, we should devote our energies to secure uniformity in our work and ritual.

The task is easy. Learn first to comprehend what is to be taught. Do not rest satisfied with mastering the phraseology, without the remotest understanding of its meaning. In each word and act there is a symbology that must be clearly understood, else the language which narrates them is as dead as a lost and forgotten tongue. There can be

no life in it. Language only covers these symbols. The vital spirit which dwells in them must be brought to light by the process which is the natural, necessary tendency of its use, the consequent truth from this previous truth.

* * * * *

In this jurisdiction our Grand Master has the power to make a Mason on sight, and a youth under age. This is the inherent faculty in our Grand Master, which our Grand Lodge fully sustains.

* * * * *

We fear the object for all these public ceremonials is mere show—display—to attract the attention of the profane. If Freemasonry is to grow, gain strength, in these days of glitter and ornament, feathers and uniforms, parades, idle curiosity, and shadows for substance, it must retire within its own portals, tyle its doors, convene the thoughtful minds, honest hearts, of earnest men, who form their judgment on their knowledge, intelligence and convictions. Then if so be lodges increase and Freemasonry flourishes, it has the support of those who constitute the solid, substantial framework of the social structure. The moral power, then, the only power Freemasonry ever exercises, becomes the stay and support of our glorious fraternity.

Under the head of Colorado, we find:

To make the ceremonies of Masonry public and common, and to allow any brother who thinks he has a gift or a mission to talk nonsense or introduce some theatrical displays in lodge ceremonial, would utterly destroy that high respect and reverence for Freemasonry which it now receives from all thoughtful, educated men. In this jurisdiction we have no "Grand Lecturers," fortunately. It is the Grand Master's duty to see that the work is uniform, and every lodge changing its Master yearly, with three hundred and eighty lodges, it is no easy matter to keep up uniformity in the work.

Under the head of Ohio, he says:

We cannot comprehend how a lodge can permit its charter to leave the Worshipful Master's pedestal. If a charter is absolutely essential for a duly warranted lodge, that lodge is closed the moment the charter is absent from the lodge room. What need to send it to the examining room? A brother in that room can know nothing of the real character of a charter, if it is good, bad, counterfeit or a fraud. Then why let him stultify himself by attempting to decide on a paper of which he cannot possibly know anything?

M. . W. . E. Coppe, Mitchell, elected Grand Master.

R. . W. . Michael Nisbet, Masonic Temple, Broad Street,
— reëlected Grand Secretary.

Bro. Richard Vaux, Chairman Foreign Correspondence Committee; each of Philadelphia.

PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND—1882, 1883.

The pamphlet before us, of forty-nine pages, contains the proceedings of the Grand Lodge of Prince Edward Island, had at a Semi-annual, at Summerside, in 1881; the Seventh Annual, at Charlottetown, June, 1882; and the Eighth Annual Communication, also held at Charlottetown, June 25, 1883.

M. . W. . John Yeo, G. . M. ., presiding at each.

We find nothing in the proceedings that would interest the craft in this jurisdiction, the transactions being confined to local matters.

No report on Foreign Correspondence.

Grand Master Yeo requested to be relieved, but the brethren, acting upon the principle that "when you have got a good thing keep it," reelected him, as they have at every annual communication from the organization.

M. . W. . John Yeo, Port Hill, Grand Master.

R. . W. . G. W. Wakefield, Charlottetown, reelected Grand Secretary.

QUEBEC—1884.

The Fourteenth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Quebec was held at Sherbrooke, Jan. 30 and 31, 1884.

M. . W. . E. R. Johnson, G. . M. ., "on the throne."

Forty-six lodges represented.

Sixty-seven on the roll.

The Grand Master gives a lengthy and minute history of the difficulty with the Grand Lodge of England. There are three lodges in the Province that maintain their allegiance to the Grand Lodge of England. It is much to be regretted that the difficulty cannot be settled, but we fear, from the spirit displayed by the members (or a number of them) of the three lodges working under the English constitutions, that no amicable adjustment can be made during their lifetime.

Transactions of local interest.

No report on Foreign Correspondence.

M. . W. . E. R. Johnson, Stanstead, Grand Master.

R. . W. . John H. Isaacson, Montreal, Grand Secretary; were both reelected.

RHODE ISLAND—1884.

The Ninety-fourth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Rhode Island and "Providence Plantations" was held at Providence, May 19, 1884.

M. . W. . Lyman Klapp, G. . M. ., presiding.

Thirty-two lodges represented.

Thirty-seven on the roll.

We quote from the report of the Grand Master, under the head of "excessive legislation :"

Before closing we desire to call your attention again to what we said one year ago in relation to the danger of excessive legislation.

This evil is apparent in nearly all our social, civil and ecclesiastical organizations, and we also think it will be generally admitted that our venerable institution has suffered more or less from this law-making epidemic. A few words, therefore, upon this subject will not, we trust, be considered entirely out of place, even in this conservative Grand Lodge, which, in so large a measure, has been content to follow in the footsteps of the fathers by taking as its guide, to a great extent, the unwritten laws and traditions of our ancient and honorable society.

* * * * *

The first century after the introduction of Masonry into this country it flourished and spread with wonderful rapidity. During this period the craftsmen were busy in genuine Masonic work, and had comparatively little time, and less inclination, for making new laws. It was at the close of this first century in the history of American Freemasonry, some fifty years ago, that the social, religious and political storm of anti-Masonry burst upon the States, and raged with a fury seldom, if ever, equaled in the history of this country. Lodge rooms were closed, active work suspended, while death rapidly reduced the roll of membership, and for a time it appeared to those outside the fraternity that our ancient institution, with all its traditions, legends, rights, and conservative teachings and discipline, was doomed to utter extinction. In these dark and troublous days nearly a generation passed away, during which few found admission to the Order.

Upon the revival of Masonry, the raw recruits soon outnumbered those veterans who had survived the dark days of persecution; and it is not surprising that many of these new recruits, who were men of middle or past middle age, with habits of thought and character already

fixed, should have failed to fully appreciate or assimilate the conservative teachings and discipline of such an institution as ours. These brethren, influenced, unconsciously it may have been, by the universal drift of the times, enacted a multitude of new laws, many of them not in harmony, and others, we fear, in direct conflict, with the spirit of those deep underlying principles of our ancient institution.

The truth of this statement is easily ascertained by an examination of the proceedings of the various Grand Lodges of the country during the past twenty-five or thirty years, which are filled with these new and conflicting constitutions, laws, regulations and approved decisions.

We feel, therefore, that there is grave cause for alarm, and that unless there is some check to this law-making mania, the old landmarks, laws and usages of Ancient Craft Masonry will be buried under the rubbish of modern so-called improvements, and in place of that grand old historic institution, Freemasonry, we shall have a modern society, with everything ancient eliminated from it except the name.

We do not wish to be understood as advocating the theory that no further legislation is necessary, for, as we have already said, human institutions must have growth; but we do wish to impress upon this Grand Lodge, with all the force and earnestness possible, the necessity of acting with great care, and only after mature deliberation, in the adoption of any new laws or regulations.

The earlier proceedings of the Grand Lodge, from 1791 to 1808, have been reprinted. A valuable contribution to the history of Masonry on this side of the world.

During the year the Grand Lodge laid the corner stones of the "Burnside Memorial Building," at Bristol, and of Freemasons' Hall, in the city of Providence.

Transactions of local interest.

The report on Foreign Correspondence was confined to a notice of the establishment of Grand Lodges in Spain, Portugal, Peru, Mexico, and Victoria.

M. . W. . Lyman Klapp, Grand Master.

R. . W. . Edwin Baker, Grand Secretary, were each reelected; both of Providence.

TENNESSEE—1884.

The Seventieth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Tennessee was held at Nashville, Jan. 29 and 30, 1884.

M. . W. . Newton W. McConnell, G. . M. ., presiding.

Eleven Past Grand Masters present.

Three hundred and twenty-five lodges represented.

Five hundred and sixteen on the roll.

Dispensations for three new lodges issued during the year.

The Grand Master is a zealous worker. His first move was to get up a revival of Masonry in the State; "not so much for the acquisition of new members," but "the awakening to a new and higher life the membership we already had." To that end he issued a circular, addressed to the lodges, with instructions to use the summons to members and non-affiliates "to compel a large audience to come and hear me." As another means, he availed himself of every opportunity to visit the lodges. He reports having visited a large number, and a renewed interest manifested throughout the State.

We copy the following rulings:

1. A member of a lodge was definitely suspended, but appealed to the Grand Lodge, in which the judgment of the subordinate lodge was affirmed. The suspended member applied to his lodge to be restored before his sentence expired. Held, that his lodge had the power to restore him without the consent of the Grand Lodge, and by a majority vote.

* * * * *

3. Caledonia Lodge, 96, granted a member a dimit, the order being regularly entered on its minutes, but he failed to obtain the certificate of the Secretary. At a subsequent communication, at his request, the lodge reconsidered its former action and rescinded the order granting the dimit, holding that this reinstated the member. Held, that the order granting the dimit severs the membership of a brother from a lodge, and not the certificate of the Secretary, and the subsequent order attempting to rescind the first is a nullity. The member must come in by petition and unanimous ballot.

From his conclusion, we copy:

Another vice which I find is injuring the Order is profane swearing. One of the first lessons which a Mason learns is prayer, and what a mockery it is for a man to pray to the Great Jehovah whose name he profanes!

Another fault I find more prevalent than any other is, that we talk too much about one another. This Grand Lodge, in 1876, laid down the true doctrine which ought to govern Masons, in the following explicit language, to-wit: "Whatever may be the faults of a Mason, they will not justify a brother in publicly proclaiming them, and in denouncing the culprit, until he has been brought to trial and proven guilty. With Masons, 'to traduce' means not only to 'willfully misrepresent and defame,' but, in its broader, higher and primal sense, to 'represent as

blamable, or condemn.' The lips of a Mason should be sealed as to the errors of a brother, so far as the outside world is concerned. Only in the lodge, or in the sacred privacy of a personal interview, should such faults be plainly set forth, and reform demanded. The plea of justification is not allowed on a Masonic trial for slander."

The Chairman of the Foreign Correspondence Committee, the Grand Secretary—Judge Frizzell—on account of other engagements, could not prepare the report, and turned the proceedings over to P. . G. . M. . Wilbur F. Foster, with a request to prepare the review. Bro. Foster is an active, zealous Mason; a splendid ritualist; well versed in the law and the prophets; an easy, ready writer, and presented an admirable review.

We have room but for one quotation. We find, under the head of Missouri:

We claim that if it comes to the knowledge of the Grand Master, during his term of office, that any action of his Grand Lodge will work gross injustice to the humblest member of the fraternity, it is not only his right—*prerogative*, if you wish—but his bounden duty, to interpose and prevent his Grand Lodge from committing an error, and the parties from unjust punishment. We are not of that number who believe that even the positive order of the Grand Lodge will justify the Grand Master in quietly closing his eyes and stopping his ears, and permitting an injustice to be done, because the Grand Lodge has ordered it through a misapprehension of facts. He is not *merely* the executive instrument of the Grand Lodge—he is the Grand Master of *Masons* of his jurisdiction, and as such is bound to protect them from wrong to the best of his ability.

M. . W. . Benj. R. Harris, Jackson, elected Grand Master.

R. . W. . John Frizzell, reelected Grand Secretary.

Bro. Wilbur F. Foster, Chairman Foreign Correspondence Committee; the two latter of Nashville.

TEXAS—1884.

The Forty-ninth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Texas was held at Houston, Dec. 9, 10, 11 and 12, 1884.

M. . W. . Wm. H. Nichols, G. . M. ., presiding.

Nine Past Grand Masters present.

One hundred and fifty-two lodges represented.

Six hundred and seven on the roll.

Twenty dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

Authority was granted to fourteen lodges to lay corner stones.

The address of the Grand Master covers forty-one pages of the proceedings.

Relative to charity, he says:

When a Mason arrives at the point where he can go no further in dispensing his charities without material injury to himself, then is the time for lodge action; and when the lodge has taxed its full ability, then the Grand Lodge looms up in the splendid sphere of a grand charity, by directing the efforts of the entire craft on one object, which this Grand Lodge has done, time and again, in the great emergencies of distress throughout the land, by fire, flood and plague.

"Corporations have no souls," and Masonry teaches her sons to act in their individual capacity; she expects every Mason will construct his heart into an altar from which shall continually arise the sweet incense of "love to God and love to man." Her sons are

"They who, bearing heavy burdens over life's most hilly road,
Strive to cheer a weaker brother, bowed beneath another load,
Who, with young ones round about them, where full plenty never smiles,
Yet can stretch their heart and table to let in an orphan child;
They who, half-fed, feed the breadless in the travail of distress,
They who, taking from a little, give to those who have still less;
They who, needy, yet can pity when they look on greater need,
These are Charity's disciples—these are Freemasons indeed."

Corporate charity neither promotes liberality in the souls of the givers nor gratitude in recipients. The individual soul, which is the only kind we know of, needs to be brought into the very presence of want and suffering before its depths and energies can be properly stirred. Masonry intends her sons shall enjoy the pleasure of doing good, and wants no go-betweens, no middlemen, to do charity work.

An old farmer became seriously ill, and was urged by his neighbors to call a minister to pray for him. "To pray for me? No, sir; I am an original granger, and do not want any middleman between me and Almighty God."

Of Texas, he says:

Fifty years ago Masonry was founded in Texas by a dispensation of seven Masons to organize Holland Lodge, at Brazoria. In this jubilee year we have over 600 lodges, with about 16,000 Masons, distributed over the 269,694 square miles of our broad domain. The institution has kept pace with the wonderful growth and prosperity of our Lone Star State, and to-day stands forth the peer of any Grand Masonic government on this continent.

During the communication a Lodge of Sorrow was held, in

memory of a large number of brethren deceased during the year.

The report on Foreign Correspondence was presented by Bro. J. K. P. Gillaspie. Minnesota receives a kindly notice.

On the perpetual jurisdiction question, he says:

In all cases where there has grown up feeling between Grand Bodies, this has been the cause, with but one or two exceptions. Of course, the law governing political bodies should not be invoked except when we have none, or when it becomes uncertain, and then only when the analogy is striking and the reason good.

In no instance can this be shown more clearly than in this jurisdictional question, nor the reasoning stronger. Formerly the nations of the old world proclaimed the doctrine: "Once a subject, always a subject." Some of them, notably England, claimed the descendants for generations.

There is as good reason for Masonry to claim jurisdiction over the descendants of rejected applicants as for the State to claim that of the descendants of its subjects.

We believe the reason can be carried further than we have yet seen it advanced.

The citizenship of Masonry should terminate upon a declared intention to become a citizen of another jurisdiction. You can only enforce your rule by the comity of the Grand Lodge where the Mason or the rejected lives; you have no courts certainly to reach him; then why contend for a principle which is shown to be a false position from this very fact.

Old England, the most stubborn of all the nations, ceased to make such a claim for this very reason, and such discussion has, so far as she is concerned as a State, passed into the domain of the past.

Under the head of Maryland, he says:

If someone could invent some scheme to get the body of Masonry to learn to study their own laws, rules and regulations, the end would be near and trouble at an end. But, so far, human ingenuity has failed in this particular.

We had marked other passages in this excellent report for copying, but we fear that we are already making our report too lengthy.

Bro. Bringhurst, we guess that your proof-readers are not very particular. We find our P. . G. . M. . Benton, reads "Burton," and our present Grand Master is styled "Henry R. Duny" instead of Henry R. Denny.

M. . W. . Benj. A. Botts elected Grand Master.

R. . W. . G. H. Bringhurst reëlected Grand Secretary; each of Houston.

UTAH—1884.

The Thirteenth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Utah was held at Salt Lake City, Jan. 15 and 16, 1884.

M. . W. . Philip H. Emerson, G. . M. ., presiding.

Five Past Grand Masters present.

Each of the lodges in the jurisdiction—eight—represented.

Under the head of Foreign Correspondence, the Grand Master says:

I take occasion, most earnestly, to direct your attention to the report on Foreign Correspondence, published annually with our proceedings. I have reason to believe, in fact I know, that these reports are neither read as diligently and often as they should be, nor as much as their real merit entitles them to. At one of my official lodge visits, an educated and cultured brother, who had but recently become a Mason, gave expression to the disappointment felt by him in attending lodge meetings, at the lack of conversation about, and discussion upon, Masonic subjects. The criticism was deserved, and I am afraid would be equally so of every lodge in the jurisdiction. There ought to be, however, no occasion for it. It is a law of this Grand Lodge that its proceedings shall be read in open lodge. In these, and more especially in the Correspondence report, plenty of matter will be found which will furnish abundant material for profitable conversation and debate. It is always replete with information on most all Masonic subjects, including the biographies of men who have been eminent in our institution. It is a perfect storehouse of gathered and garnered knowledge of Masonic history, jurisprudence and usage, as well as the current questions of the day.

It has come to be an acknowledged fact that the reports on Correspondence, written as they usually are, by the best mentally equipped men in their respective jurisdictions, and published with the proceedings of nearly every Grand Lodge in the country, have had a greater influence than any other one thing in advancing the Masonic art in America.

There is not a page of the report of our own committee but what contains matter of interest to every member of the craft. Bro. Diehl, our chairman, ranks among the best of Masonic reviewers. His work is performed with such admirable skill and judgment that you will not find it "dry reading." You will here find copied, in whole or in part, the opinions of sister jurisdictions regarding our position towards the "powers that be" in this territory; opinions with which everyone here

should make himself perfectly familiar. During my visits to Denver and San Francisco, last summer, I enjoyed an excellent opportunity, by associating with the best informed Masons from all sections of the country, of learning something of the standing of this Grand Lodge among its sister Grand Lodges, and I am pleased to inform you, and know that you will be pleased to learn, if you did not know it before, that, although an infant in years, it is not in the rear but in the advance guard of American Grand Lodges. I am thoroughly convinced that this eminence, over which we have a right to indulge in a little self-glorification among ourselves, is mainly due to the reports on Correspondence, and I am just as thoroughly convinced that they are more read and better appreciated in other jurisdictions than in our own. Every brother should avail himself of this ready means of obtaining Masonic knowledge.

Of the Grand Lodge Library, he says:

I now come to the one distinctive feature of this Grand Lodge—its library. I know its prosperity lies near the hearts of many of you. I know that many of you are doing all you can to increase its usefulness. You can console and comfort yourselves with the fact that you were never enlisted in a nobler cause. There is little use in multiplying words upon this subject. The good the library has done and is doing is a theme upon which much might be written. Its importance can never be overestimated nor its influence fully appreciated. It is one of the noblest charities which ever engaged the attention of Masons anywhere.

We had the pleasure of inspecting the library, and were surprised at the accumulation of books in a Grand Lodge then only eleven years old. But then, Bro. Christopher Diehl is librarian.

Transactions, the usual routine of local interest.

The report on Foreign Correspondence, embracing a review of the proceedings of fifty-two Grand Lodges, those of Minnesota included, was presented by Bro. Christopher Diehl, and is well worthy of the pleasant words spoken of it by the Grand Master. See *ante*.

Under the head of Maine, he says:

The one ballot system is the law of the Grand Lodge of Utah, and it has been such ever since its organization. It is a good law, and, in our opinion, a just law, and the only correct one in an association of men who claim and profess to be true among themselves and honest towards their fellow men.

No, no; Bro. Diehl! Read our comments again. We do not

claim that "Adam was the first mason," but that our legend had its origin in events recorded as having occurred during his lifetime.

Under the head of Ohio, he says:

The Mormon question has become a "State question," but we fear it has become such a little too late in the day. The present writer is not a statesman nor a politician; he is only a plain laboring man, but he has seen and learned enough since he has resided in Utah—now eighteen years—to know that all the wiseacres in Washington combined cannot frame a law to-day that will crush polygamy, and that will at the same time be in unison with the idea and opinion of freedom and liberty of the American nation. A quarter of a century ago the gulf was narrow and could have been bridged; to-day it is wide, the waters in it are rushing and destructive, and the engineer that can span it has not yet appeared on the political horizon of our republic. This is our opinion on the subject, and if we didn't know that we had a "sure thing" we would wager a big apple on it.

M. . W. . James Lowe elected Grand Master.

R. . W. . Christopher Diehl reelected Grand Secretary, and is also Chairman Foreign Correspondence Committee; each of Salt Lake City.

VERMONT—1884.

The Ninety-second Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Vermont was held at Burlington, June 12 and 13, 1884.

M. . W. . Ozro Meacham, G. . M. ., presiding.

Eighty-five lodges represented.

One hundred and two on the roll.

One dispensation for a new lodge issued during the year.

Among the decisions reported, we note:

If any of the members present fail to ballot upon the application of a candidate, and the W. . M. ., being ignorant of the fact, declares the result of the ballot, no objection being made at the time, the vote would be valid.

2. Color or nationality of a candidate should be no objection, provided he is in *every other way eligible* and desirable.

* * * * *

4. The lodge having opened at the hour named in the by-laws, with the W. . M. . in the chair, the business transacted at that communication was lawful; and the lodge is bound by its action, notwithstanding the custom had been to open the lodge at a later hour. It is the duty

of all the officers of a lodge to be present promptly at the hour named in the by-laws of the lodge for opening. No special notice is necessary for a regular communication.

* * * * *

A vote on a petition would not be invalidated if the report was not in writing; nor, if the petition was not in the lodge room at the time the ballot was had.

When a lodge votes to give its consent for another lodge to *pass* and *raise* a candidate upon whom it has conferred the Entered Apprentice degree (the candidate having removed to the jurisdiction of the latter lodge), it renounces all claim to the candidate, and the fees for passing and raising belong to the lodge conferring those degrees; he would become a member of that lodge by signing its by-laws.

The Grand Lodge donated two hundred dollars to Past Grand Secretary Hollenbeck—ninety-four years of age—which the Grand Master was authorized to increase to three hundred, if deemed necessary.

Transactions, the usual routine of local interest.

The report on Foreign Correspondence was presented by Bro. W. H. Root, embracing a review of the proceedings of fifty-two Grand Lodges, those of Minnesota for 1883 included. Bro. Root does not desire to wear borrowed plumes, and says that we gave wrong credit for the Correspondence report; that it was written by Bro. Fisher. Our commendations were none the less applicable, and we here indorse them, with reference to the report before us. He says:

In reviewing Vermont proceedings, Bro. Pierson quotes approvingly from the Grand Master's "lengthy but excellent address;" gives Bro. Root the credit of the report on Foreign Correspondence, instead of Bro. Fisher, and likes it because "Bro. Root (Fisher) venerates the old customs, old laws, old workings, and for that reason may be classed with us 'old fogies'; we consider it an honor to be thus styled for such reasons." And so it is, Bro. Pierson. Masonry of Vermont is the "ancient and honorable" kind. Our ritual was handed down to us from ages long ago. Our "work" is that laid down on the trestle board of ancient days. When it is modernized it will cease to be Masonic work.

Under the head of District of Columbia, we find:

It is a well-settled regulation in this jurisdiction, not necessary to be expressed in a by-law, that the conduct of an affiliated Mason is under the cognizance of the lodge in whose jurisdiction he may be located. In the case of non-affiliates the right is recognized by the by-laws. Bro.

Singleton fails to find in our by-laws anywhere a distinct section as to the number of ballots required for the three degrees. We assure Bro. Singleton that the general regulation of this Grand Lodge has been, for many years past, that one ballot only is necessary for the three degrees.

Under Illinois:

What is the object of discipline? Is it to punish or is it to reclaim? Is it to cut off a brother from all the rights and privileges of the fraternity, or to lead him to confess his error and return to the paths of rectitude and right? The payment of "dues," made obligatory upon a brother, is a modern invention. In ancient times each brother paid "dues" when he was present. It was a voluntary offering. Now, the "dues" are stated in the by-laws of each lodge. Non-payment cripples the finances of the lodge, but it does not belong to the category of offenses against the fundamental principles of morality and virtue on which the institution of Freemasonry is founded.

Enter printer's d—1: "Copy, if you please."

M. . W. . Ozro Meacham, Brandon, Grand Master.

R. . W. . William H. Root, Burlington, Grand Secretary;
were both reelected.

VIRGINIA—1884.

The One Hundred and Seventh Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Virginia was held at Richmond, Dec. 8, 9 and 10, 1884.

M. . W. . Francis H. Hill, G. . M. ., presiding.

M. . W. . Henry W. Murray died August 16th, and was buried with Masonic honors by the Grand Lodge.

Four Past Grand Masters present.

One hundred and twenty lodges represented.

Two hundred and forty-one on the roll.

Two dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

We copy the decisions of G. . M. . Murray, as reported:

First Question. What is the status, as an officer and as a member in his lodge, of a Senior Warden who has on trial been found guilty on a charge of unmasonic conduct, voted to be reprimanded, and an appeal is taken before the execution of the verdict?

Answer. (1) He cannot fill or discharge any of the duties of his office during the pendency of the appeal. (2) As no Masonic disability per-

tains to a verdict of *reprimand*, he is not thereby deprived of any of the rights of membership.

Second Question. Can a rejected applicant for advancement be permitted to sit in the lodge in which he was rejected, to witness the initiation of a candidate in the Entered Apprentice degree?

Answer. Yes.

Third Question. A brother is charged with gross unmasonic conduct. The specification is: "Speaking evil of a brother Master Mason." The brother spoken of is dead. Should the testimony of the accused be received by the committee appointed to try him?

Answer. If the accused and accuser were both living, both could testify; but as the party of whom evil is alleged to have been spoken is dead, the accused cannot be admitted as a witness in his own behalf. However (adds Bro. Murray), this is a new and very important question, and one that ought to be settled by the Grand Lodge.

No. 3 was not approved by the Grand Lodge.

Relative to dimitts, the Committee on Masonic Jurisprudence reported:

They respectfully report that a dimit is only intended to show the good standing of the brother receiving the same, at the date of its issuance, and that he is free on the treasurer's books. If a brother is in good standing, pays up, and wishes to sever his connection with his lodge—that is, if there are no charges pending or about to be preferred, or hanging over his head in their inception, and is free on the treasurer's books—he has the right to a dimit, which may be granted by order of the Worshipful Master, if there be no objection, without a vote of the lodge; if objection be made, then by a majority vote of the members present.

A deserved tribute to a Grand Officer:

As for our Grand Secretary, it is useless for your committee to even pretend to commend him upon the manner in which he has discharged his duties. He has so faithfully and well filled the great and important office of Grand Secretary for so long, that hardly a brother who has trod the ground-floor of our Mystic Temple but recognizes his great worth to the craft. Even the most critical would fail to pick a flaw in the neat and systematic manner in which he has shown the craft his faith in the trust they have reposed in him; and his familiarity with *Masonic* usages and the duties of the office of Grand Secretary have been the comfort and support of all of this Grand Body who have had occasion to call upon him.

Virginia is divided into forty districts. Thirty-four pages of

the proceedings are devoted to the reports of the District Deputies.

Query. If the reports of the Deputies in Minnesota were published with the annual proceedings, would it not have a tendency to encourage a more active attention to the lodges, and stimulate a larger number of reports.

The report of Bro. W. F. Drinkard on Foreign Correspondence, this year, only covers sixty-eight pages. We indorse his quotation from the elder Weller: "When it's short, they'll wish there was more of it." However, Minnesota is complimented with a page.

Beg pardon, Bro. Drinkard. Bro. Pierson did not "raise the question;" it was raised long ago. But he does claim a little credit in stimulating Bro. Isaacs in presenting the proofs.

M. . W. . Francis H. Hill, Madison Court House, elected Grand Master.

R. . W. . William B. Isaacs reelected Grand Secretary.

Bro. William F. Drinkard, Chairman Foreign Correspondence Committee; both of the latter of Richmond.

WASHINGTON—1884.

The Twenty-seventh Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Washington was held at Spokane Falls, June 4, 5 and 6, 1884.

M. . W. . Levi Ankeny, G. . M. ., presiding.

Seven Past Grand Masters present.

Thirty-six lodges represented.

Forty-two on the roll.

Two dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

One of the chartered lodges of Washington is located at Harrisburg, Alaska Territory.

The Grand Master had "in all cases refused consent to lodges to wear their regalia at balls or any gathering, except for strictly Masonic purposes;" he had "observed a disposition with people who did nothing else well, that they would always attempt to make a law;" he thinks that "one year's service of Masters of subordinate lodges is operating now to the prejudice of the best interests of the craft in our jurisdiction," and earnestly advises

the "lodges that they should reelect their Masters for a continued service of two years."

The Grand Secretary presented his twenty-second annual report. He says:

A long experience fully demonstrates to the mind of your Grand Secretary that nothing is to be gained or saved to the treasury of the Grand Lodge by the formal advertising for or the intrusting of the Grand Lodge printing to the "lowest bidder." This matter should be left to the judgment and discretion of the Grand Secretary. From the time the Grand Lodge closes till the printed proceedings are in the hands of the brethren there is a vast amount of work and responsibility devolving upon that officer — preparing the copy, reading and correcting proof, etc., and watching every detail till the work is finished. It is his constant endeavor to have no interest of the Grand Lodge suffer, and it is his pleasure to see that the work is done *well*, and as cheaply and expeditiously as possible.

He reports the total receipts for the year at \$3,802.08.

The following, relative to Grand Representatives, was adopted:

Resolved, That the term of office of all Grand Representatives hereafter appointed under authority of this Grand Lodge, near other Grand Lodges, shall be limited to the period of four years, and that all commissions to such Representatives heretofore issued shall terminate at the expiration of four years from their respective dates of issue.

Bro. T. M. Reed presented a very interesting report on Foreign Correspondence, embracing a review of the proceedings of fifty Grand Lodges, those of Minnesota for 1884 included.

Under the head of Canada he says, in which we concur:

The lodge *has* the right to relinquish or *refuse* to relinquish its authority over material resident within its local jurisdiction, and no such power rests with any Grand Master. We know of no possible reason why the Grand Master should be called to act in a matter of this kind, except in giving his counsel and advice in cases of questionable policy or propriety. That comity involving the right to relinquish material is confined to lodges alone, and has, or, in our opinion, *should* have, universal application, regardless of Grand Lodge limitations or boundaries.

Under the District of Columbia, we find:

Masonic principles never change—Masonic landmarks, pure and simple, never can be changed. They are the never-dying emanations

of TRUTH, evolved in the light of Wisdom. But certain of laws and polity applicable to the government of the fraternity must necessarily change, as with the mutations of time and circumstances. Masonic law, whether ancient or modern, is intended to protect, defend and uphold the "sacred principles" of Masonry, and that law must be measured and *valued* by the enlightened reason of the age in which it exists. We deal with Masonry and the laws for its government as we find them, and we endeavor to bring our reason to bear upon them as upon any other theme, or principle in nature, or moral ethics.

Under Kentucky, commenting upon Bro. Staton's report, he says:

He does not see any good reason for changing his opinion that a ballot for the three degrees is preferable to a ballot for each degree. A man unfit to receive the second or third degree should never be admitted to the first. On receiving the first he is solemnly affirmed and accepted to be a man worthy and well qualified, and becomes a brother among his fellows. He is entitled to be respected as such, and should anything arise causing doubt sufficient to prevent his advancement, he should have a fair hearing, and not mercilessly checked in his laudable ambition, in ignorance of the cause. And among many other good reasons in favor of the one-ballot system, it is, or ought to be, an incentive to make committees of investigation more careful and thorough in the duty assigned them, that the lodge may not be called upon to regret its action in the admission of unworthy material.

Of Bro. Cornish's address he says: "It is an able and interesting contribution to the literature of the Order."

M. . W. . William Henry White, Seattle, elected Grand Master.

R. . W. . Thomas M. Reed, Olympia, reëlected Grand Secretary, and is also Chairman Foreign Correspondence Committee.

WEST VIRGINIA—1884.

The Twentieth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of West Virginia was held at Wheeling, Nov. 11 and 12, 1884.

M. . W. . William G. Bennett, G. . M. ., presiding.

Seventy-four lodges represented.

One hundred and seventeen on the roll.

Transactions, the usual routine and of local interest.

No report on Foreign Correspondence.

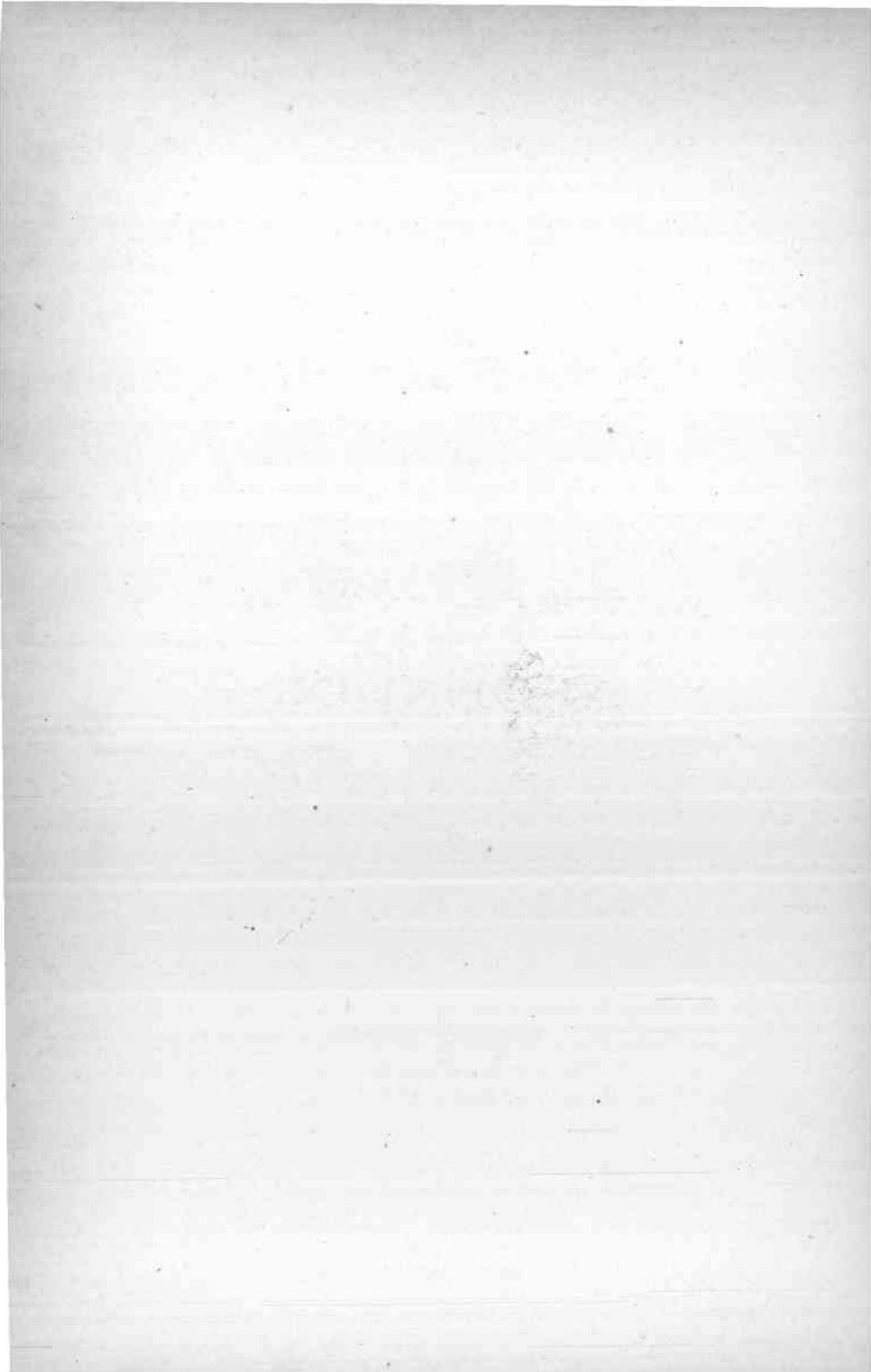


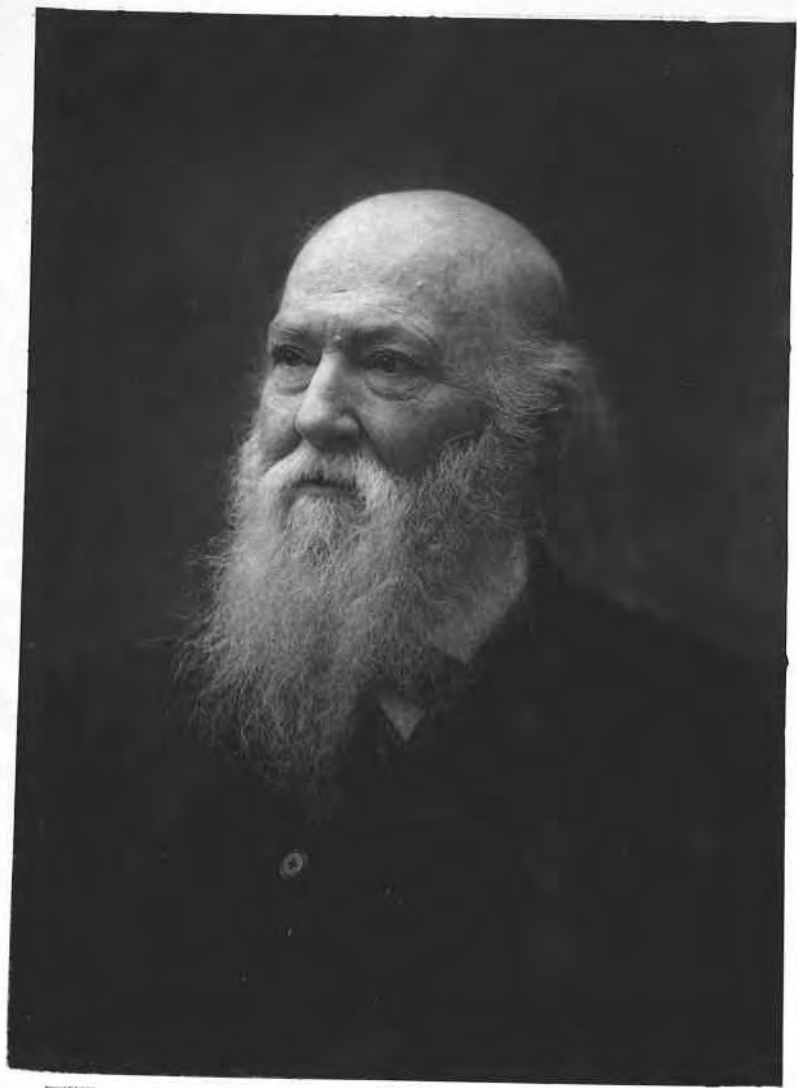
PHOTOGRAPH

EDUCATION

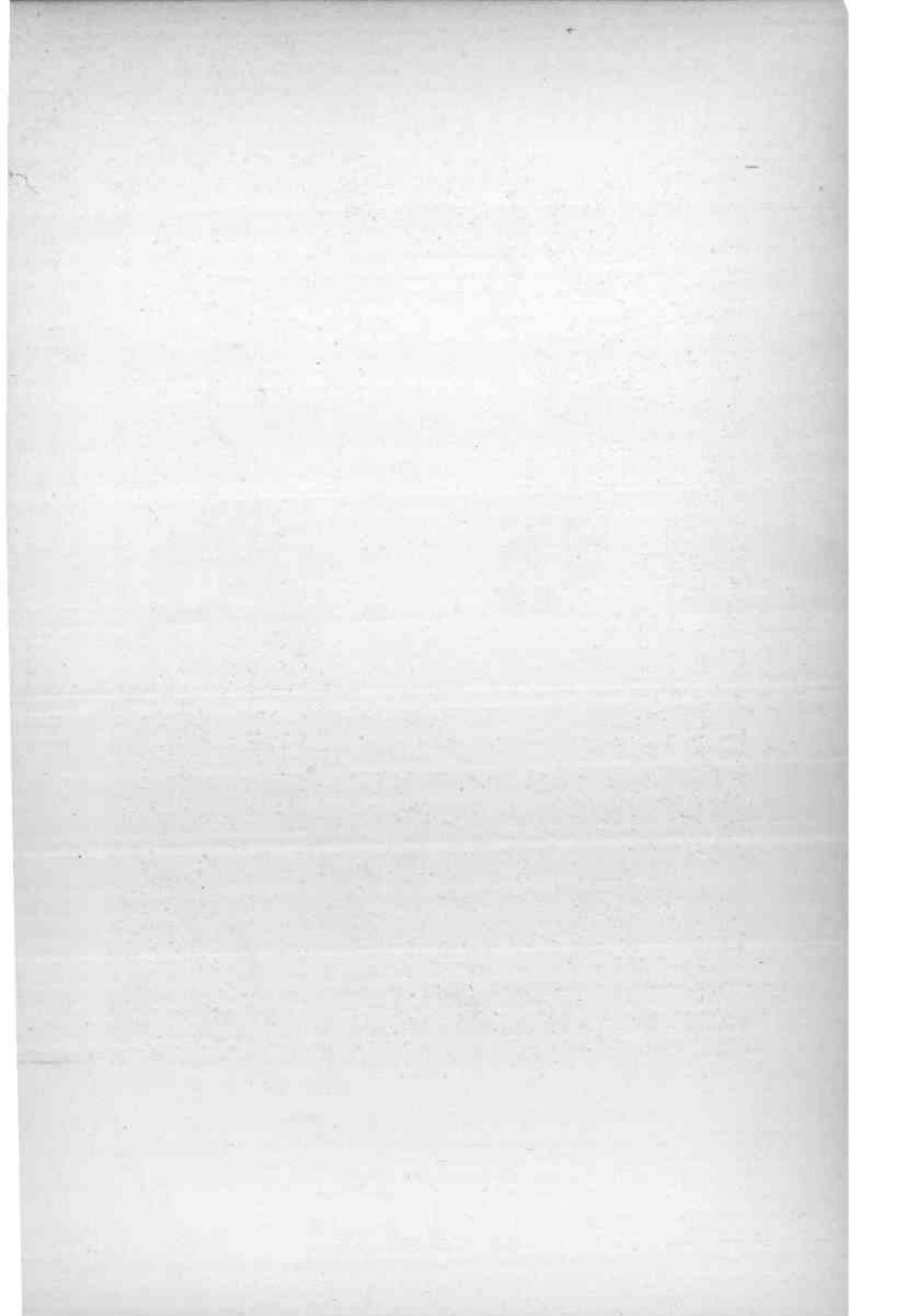
PHOTOGRAPH

GEO. W. PRESCOTT,
GRAND MASTER, 1864-65.





A. T. C. PIERSON,
GRAND MASTER, 1856-63.



of TRUTH, evolved in the light of Wisdom. But certain of laws and polity applicable to the government of the fraternity must necessarily change, as with the mutations of time and circumstances. Masonic law, whether ancient or modern, is intended to protect, defend and uphold the "sacred principles" of Masonry, and that law must be measured and *valued* by the enlightened reason of the age in which it exists. We deal with Masonry and the laws for its government as we find them, and we endeavor to bring our reason to bear upon them as upon any other theme, or principle in nature, or moral ethics.

Under Kentucky, commenting upon Bro. Staton's report, he says:

He does not see any good reason for changing his opinion that a ballot for the three degrees is preferable to a ballot for each degree. A man unfit to receive the second or third degree should never be admitted to the first. On receiving the first he is solemnly affirmed and accepted to be a man worthy and well qualified, and becomes a brother among his fellows. He is entitled to be respected as such, and should anything arise causing doubt sufficient to prevent his advancement, he should have a fair hearing, and not mercilessly checked in his laudable ambition, in ignorance of the cause. And among many other good reasons in favor of the one-ballot system, it is, or ought to be, an incentive to make committees of investigation more careful and thorough in the duty assigned them, that the lodge may not be called upon to regret its action in the admission of unworthy material.

Of Bro. Cornish's address he says: "It is an able and interesting contribution to the literature of the Order."

M. . W. . William Henry White, Seattle, elected Grand Master.

R. . W. . Thomas M. Reed, Olympia, reëlected Grand Secretary, and is also Chairman Foreign Correspondence Committee.

WEST VIRGINIA—1884.

The Twentieth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of West Virginia was held at Wheeling, Nov. 11 and 12, 1884.

M. . W. . William G. Bennett, G. . M. ., presiding.

Seventy-four lodges represented.

One hundred and seventeen on the roll.

Transactions, the usual routine and of local interest.

No report on Foreign Correspondence.

If a suggestion was admissible, we would suggest to the brethren of West Virginia that a report on Foreign Correspondence would be far more advantageous than printing the names of the members, and would pay a better interest on the investment.

M. . W. . Geo. E. Thornburg, Cabell C. H., elected Grand Master.

R. . W. . O. S. Long, Wheeling, reëlected Grand Secretary.

WISCONSIN—1884.

The Fortieth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Wisconsin was held at Milwaukee, June 10, 11 and 12, 1884.

M. . W. . Lewis E. Reed, G. . M. ., presiding.

One hundred and eighty-five lodges represented.

Two hundred and twenty-four on the roll.

Twenty-seven discontinued.

Four dispensations for new lodges issued during the year.

The following was adopted:

Resolved, That no officer, member or visiting brother, or other person present, shall communicate to any reporter, editor, or other person connected with any newspaper, any fact, circumstance or other matter that may be presented to, or acted upon, at this communication of the Grand Lodge.

Transactions of local interest.

Total number of Masons in the State, 12,392.

One hundred and thirty died during the year.

The proceedings are well got up,—this year we have a perfect copy,—heavy white paper, apparently new type, well leaded; the eye is not wearied in the reading.

The report on Foreign Correspondence covers one hundred and thirty-two pages, embraces a review of the proceedings of fifty-five Grand Lodges, and was presented by—well, we copy from the body of the proceedings:

Bro. Alexander Meggett moved, and Bro. Gabriel Bouck seconded the motion, that Bro. E. E. Chapin, our good-looking Past Grand Master, who wears his honors with so much grace, receive the thanks of this Grand Lodge for his able report on Correspondence.

Unanimously carried.

Bro. Chapin says that it is his first report. Well, if he expects to improve on this in the future, many of the older reporters will feel like "hiding their diminished heads." We present one extract—wish that we had room for more—which we find under the head of New York:

We are gratified to note that in Wisconsin we have never experienced so bitter a state of feeling as existed in New York, wherein this growing evil was so manifest, and to which the Grand Master's able address alludes. We had occasion, when Grand Master of Wisconsin, after observing the manipulation of wire-pullers to be elected, or to aid in the election of some particular one to some particular office in the Grand Lodge, to speak our mind plainly upon this political practice, and which seemed foreign to Masonic principle. We are, therefore, pleased that Masonic writers throughout the Masonic world, quoting our words, have expressed themselves, in language not to be misunderstood, in disapprobation of this growing unmasonic business of rank electioneering in Grand Lodge. It is true that every Mason should have an ambition to rise in the ranks—aye, to mount the top round of the Masonic ladder, where his usefulness to the craft is obvious; but when this is sought to be done by trickery and intrigue, when the want of qualification for such an elevated position is manifest, then every true Mason should "put a head on it" at once. The place should seek the man, and not the man the place.

M. . W. . Oliver Libbey, Green Bay, elected Grand Master.

R. . W. . John W. Laffin, Milwaukee, reelected Grand Secretary.

Bro. Emmons E. Chapin, Milwaukee, Foreign Correspondence Committee.

WYOMING—1883.

The Ninth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Wyoming was held at Evanston, Oct. 9, 1883.

M. . W. . John K. Jeffrey, G. . M. ., presiding.

Four Past Grand Masters present.

Four lodges represented.

Five on the roll.

One dispensation for a new lodge issued during the year.

The address of the Grand Master, strictly a business paper, closes with:

J.

ANI

NAME

ard A.

Bento

es Gr

W. Pr

C. Pl

Dura

Denn

Well

Barn

C. Pl

am S.

C. Pl

Well

Com

es Gr

B. Ra

.....

Castl

s P. P

Comm

Com

Finch

Castl

Castl

Edge

C. Pl

Gove

Adam

W. T

Merr

Rhode Island.....	Lymon Klapp.....	Providence.	Edwin Baker.....	Nashville.	John H. Vaughan.....	Richmond.
South Carolina.....	J. Edgar Smythe.....	Charleston.	Charles Inglesby.....	Providence.	Henry W. Kueg.....	Providence.
Tennessee.....	Benj. A. Harris.....	Jackson.	John Prizzell.....	Charleston.	Charles Inglesby.....	Charleston.
Texas.....	Benj. A. Harris.....	Houston.	C. H. Bringhurst.....	Nashville.	Wilber F. Foster.....	Nashville.
Utah.....	James A. Loe.....	Salt Lake City.	Christopher Diehl.....	Houston.	C. K. P. Gilaspie.....	Houston.
Vermont.....	Orzo M. Welch.....	Brandon.	Wm. R. Root.....	Salt Lake City.	Christopher Diehl.....	Salt Lake City.
Virginia.....	Francis H. Hill.....	Madison.	Wm. R. Root.....	Burlington.	W. H. Root.....	Burlington.
Washington.....	Frank H. White.....	Seattle.	Wm. R. Root.....	Richmond.	Wm. F. Dinkard.....	Richmond.
Wisconsin.....	Oliver Libbey.....	Green Bay.	Thos. M. Reed.....	Olympia.	Thos. M. Reed.....	Olympia.
West Virginia.....	George E. Thornburg.....	Cabell C. H.	John W. Lathin.....	Milwaukee.	Emmons E. Chapin.....	Milwaukee.
Wyoming.....	E. F. Cheney.....	Lander.	O. S. Long.....	Laramie.	J. H. Symons.....	Laramie.

Bro. Chapin says that it is his first report. Well, if he expects to improve on this in the future, many of the older reporters will feel like "hiding their diminished heads." We present one extract—wish that we had room for more—which we find under the head of New York:

We are gratified to note that in Wisconsin we have never experienced so bitter a state of feeling as existed in New York, wherein this growing evil was so manifest, and to which the Grand Master's able address alludes. We had occasion, when Grand Master of Wisconsin, after observing the manipulation of wire-pullers to be elected, or to aid in the election of some particular one to some particular office in the Grand Lodge, to speak our mind plainly upon this political practice, and which seemed foreign to Masonic principle. We are, therefore, pleased that Masonic writers throughout the Masonic world, quoting our words, have expressed themselves, in language not to be misunderstood, in disapprobation of this growing unmasonic business of rank electioneering in Grand Lodge. It is true that every Mason should have an ambition to rise in the ranks—aye, to mount the top round of the Masonic ladder, where his usefulness to the craft is obvious; but when this is sought to be done by trickery and intrigue, when the want of qualification for such an elevated position is manifest, then every true Mason should "put a head on it" at once. The place should seek the man, and not the man the place.

M. . W. . Oliver Libbey, Green Bay, elected Grand Master.

R. . W. . John W. Laflin, Milwaukee, reelected Grand Secretary.

Bro. Emmons E. Chapin, Milwaukee, Foreign Correspondence Committee.

WYOMING—1883.

The Ninth Annual Communication of the Grand Lodge of Wyoming was held at Evanston, Oct. 9, 1883.

M. . W. . John K. Jeffrey, G. . M. ., presiding.

Four Past Grand Masters present.

Four lodges represented.

Five on the roll.

One dispensation for a new lodge issued during the year.

The address of the Grand Master, strictly a business paper, closes with:

Huzza! ye that build the Temple rare,
Banish your fear and dark despair;
Tho' years may pass and centuries come,
While a block is dug or rafter hewn,
Build, and believe in the coming day
When all men into its courts shall stray.

The Grand Secretary reports the craft in a flourishing condition. One of "every ten male adult persons composing the population" is a Mason. He recommends that each lodge should have its history written and published with the annual proceedings. A wise suggestion.

It was ordered that all moneys received from the sale of proceedings and dispensations be appropriated for the binding of the proceedings of the Grand Lodges. A wise act, that will be highly appreciated in the future.

Up to this writing the proceedings of 1884 have not been received.

A very good report on Foreign Correspondence, embracing a review of thirty-six Grand Lodges, was presented by Bro. W. J. McIntyre. Of Bro. Benton, he says: "The Grand Master is a veritable Mark Tapley of good nature and accommodation," and says of Bro. Adams' address, that it "is a beautiful illustration of Masonic virtue and beneficence."

M. . W. . J. K. Jeffrey, Cheyenne, Grand Master.

R. . W. . John H. Symons, Laramie, Grand Secretary; were both reelected.

Fraternally submitted,

A. T. C. PIERSON,

Chairman.

APPENDIX I. DIRECTORY OF GRAND LODGES.

COMPILED FROM LATEST DATES.

STATE.	GRAND MASTER.	RESIDENCE.	GRAND SECRETARY.	RESIDENCE.	FOREIGN CORRESP. COM.	RESIDENCE.
Alabama.....	John H. Bankhead.....	Wetumpka.	Daniel Sayre.....	Montgomery.	Palmer I. Pillaus.....	Mobile.
Arizona.....	W. H. H. Clayton.....	Fort Smith.	Fay H. Rimpstead.....	Little Rock.	George E. Dodge.....	Little Rock.
Arkansas.....	M. P. Freeman.....	Tucson.	G. J. Runkle.....	Pecos.	Morris Goldwater.....	Prescott.
British Columbia.....	Thomas Trounce.....	Victoria.	Edward N. Nielsen.....	Victoria.	Ell Harrison, Sr.....	Victoria.
Connecticut.....	Dwight Waugh.....	Stamford.	Joseph K. Wheeler.....	Hartford.	Joseph M. Wheeler.....	Hartford.
California.....	Jonathan D. Hines.....	Nordhoff.	Alexander G. Abell.....	San Francisco.	James W. Wright.....	Anderson.
Colorado.....	Jonathan D. Hines.....	Canon City.	Ed. C. Parmelee.....	Georgetown.	Roger W. Woodbury.....	Denver.
Canada.....	Hugh Murray.....	Hamilton.	I. J. Mason.....	Hamilton.		
District Columbia.....	Myron M. Parker.....	Washington.	Wm. R. Singleton.....	Washington.	Wm. R. Singleton.....	Washington.
Delaware.....	Thomas Davidson.....	Wilmington.	William S. McCoy.....	Wilmington.	William Blatt.....	Yankton.
Dakota.....	John F. Schraeder.....	Rapid City.	Charles T. Dawkins.....	Aberdeen.		
Florida.....	Robert J. Perry.....	Key West.	De Witt C. Dawkins.....	Jacksonville.	J. Emmett Blackshear.....	Macou.
Georgia.....	John S. Davis.....	Augusta.	Wm. H. Smythe.....	Macou.	Simon S. Johnson.....	Jeffersonville.
Illinois.....	Albert C. Charles.....	Seymour.	Loyal L. Muntz.....	Indianapolis.	T. F. Gurney.....	Chicago.
Iowa.....	John R. Thomas.....	Metropolis.	Theodore S. Parvin.....	Cedar Rapids.	T. S. Parvin.....	Cedar Rapids.
Idaho.....	Charles T. Granger.....	Boise City.	Jonas W. Brown.....	Boise City.	George H. Davis.....	Boise City.
Indian Territory.....	John A. Pugh.....	McAlester.	J. S. Morrow.....	Atoka.	J. S. Morrow.....	Atoka.
Kentucky.....	Edmund H. Doyle.....	Russellville.	Hiram Bassett.....	Millersburg.	James W. Staton.....	Brooksville.
Kansas.....	J. Jay Buck.....	Emporia.	John H. Brown.....	Wyandotte.	J. H. Brown.....	Wyandotte.
Louisiana.....	James L. Lobdell.....	Louisiana.	J. C. Batchelor, M. D.....	New Orleans.	M. E. Girard.....	Vermillionville.
Maine.....	Resenden I. Day.....	Lewiston.	Ira Berry.....	Portland.	J. H. Drummond.....	Portland.
Massachusetts.....	John S. Tyson.....	Boston.	Serenio D. Nickerson.....	Boston.		
Maryland.....	A. H. Howland, Jr.....	Baltimore.	Jacob H. Medary.....	Baltimore.	F. J. S. Gorgas.....	Baltimore.
Michigan.....	Arthur M. Clark.....	Lexington.	Wm. P. Innes.....	Grand Rapids.	Wm. P. Innes.....	Grand Rapids.

APPENDIX I.—Continued.

STATE.	GRAND MASTER.	RESIDENCE.	GRAND SECRETARY.	RESIDENCE.	FOREIGN CORRESP. COM.	RESIDENCE.
Minnesota.....	Henry R. Denny.....	Carver.	A. T. C. Pierson.....	St. Paul.	A. T. C. Pierson.....	St. Paul.
Missouri.....	R. F. Stevenson.....	Kansas City.	John D. Vincil.....	St. Louis.	J. D. Vincil.....	St. Louis.
Mississippi.....	J. B. Morgan.....	Hernando.	J. L. Power.....	Jackson.	Rev. A. H. Barkley.....	Crawford.
Montana.....	S. W. Langhorne.....	Bozeman.	Cornelius Hedges.....	Helena.	Cornelius Hedges.....	Helena.
Manitoba.....	John H. Bell.....	Winnipeg.	Wm. G. Scott.....	Winnipeg.		
New Hampshire.....	Henry E. Burham.....	Manchester.	George P. Cleaves.....	Concord.	Albert S. Wait.....	Newport.
New Jersey.....	Rev. H. Velsiage.....	Irvington.	Joseph H. Hough.....	Trenton.	Joseph W. Martin.....	Rahway.
New York.....	Frank R. Lawrence.....	New York.	E. H. L. Ehlers.....	New York.	John W. Simons.....	Brooklyn.
North Carolina.....	F. H. Busbee.....	Raleigh.	Edward W. Bain.....	Raleigh.		
Nebraska.....	John J. Wemple.....	Hastings.	Wm. R. Bowen.....	Omaha.		
Nevada.....	David E. Bailey.....	Eureka.	John D. Hammond.....	Carson.	John D. Hammond.....	Carson.
New Mexico.....	Wm. B. Childers.....	Albuquerque.	David J. Miller.....	Santa Fe.		
New Brunswick.....	John V. Ellis.....	St. John.	Edwin J. Wetmore.....	St. John.		
Nova Scotia.....	J. W. Laurie.....	Oakfield.	Benjamin Curran.....	Halifax.		
Oregon.....	Joseph M. Goodspeed.....	Athens.	John D. Caldwell.....	Cincinnati.	Rev. D. C. Moore.....	Stellarton.
Pennsylvania.....	Thomas G. Reames.....	Jacksonville.	F. J. Babcock.....	Salmon.	R. E. Richards.....	Toledo.
Prince Ed. Island.....	John Yeo.....	Philadelphia.	Michael Nisbet.....	Philadelphia.	S. F. Chadwick.....	Salem.
Quebec.....	E. R. Johnson.....	Port Hill.	G. W. Wakefield.....	Charlottetown.	Richard Vaux.....	Philadelphia.
Rhode Island.....	Lyman Klapp.....	Providence.	John H. Isaacson.....	Montreal.	John H. Graham.....	Richmond.
South Carolina.....	J. Edgar Smythe.....	Jackson.	Edwin Baker.....	Providence.	Henry W. Rugg.....	Providence.
Tennessee.....	Benj. A. Batts.....	Charleston.	Charles Inglesby.....	Charleston.	Charles Inglesby.....	Charleston.
Texas.....	Benj. A. Batts.....	Houston.	John Frizzell.....	Nashville.	Wilbur F. Foster.....	Nashville.
Utah.....	James Lowe.....	Salt Lake City.	G. H. Brinchurst.....	Houston.	J. K. P. Gillespie.....	Houston.
Vermont.....	Ozro Meacham.....	Brandon.	Christopher Diehl.....	Salt Lake City.	Christopher Diehl.....	Salt Lake City.
Virginia.....	Francis H. Hill.....	Madison C. H.	Wm. B. Root.....	Burlington.	W. H. Root.....	Burlington.
Washington.....	Wm. H. White.....	Seattle.	Wm. B. Isaacs.....	Richmond.	Wm. F. Dinkard.....	Richmond.
Wisconsin.....	Oliver Libbey.....	Green Bay.	Thos. M. Reed.....	Olympia.	Thos. M. Reed.....	Olympia.
West Virginia.....	George E. Thornburg.....	Cabell C. H.	John W. Ladin.....	Milwaukee.	Emmons E. Chapin.....	Milwaukee.
Wyoming.....	E. F. Cheney.....	Lander.	O. S. Long.....	Wheeling.	J. H. Symons.....	Laramie.
			J. H. Symons.....	Laramie.		

APPENDIX J.

REPRESENTATIVES OF GRAND LODGES.

TO			FROM	
NAME.	RESIDENCE.	STATE.	NAME.	RESIDENCE.
George L. Kimball.....	Dardanelle...	Alabama.....	Richard A. Jones...	Rochester.
Nathan Dikeman.....	Waterbury.....	Arkansas...	C. H. Benton.....	Minneapolis.
Alex. G. Abell.....	San Francisco	Connectic't	Charles Griswold...	St. Paul.
Henry M. Teller.....	Central.....	California...	Geo. W. Prescott...	Sturgeon Bay, Wis
A. A. Stevenson.....	Montreal.....	Colorado...	A. T. C. Pierson.....	St. Paul.
John F. Saulsbury.....	Dover.....	Canada.....	E. W. Durant.....	Stillwater.
Geo. H. Hand.....	Yankton.....	Deleware.....	H. R. Denny.....	Carver.
Enos Wasgate.....	Jacksonville..	Dakota.....	H. R. Wells.....	Preston.
Thos. W. Chandler...	Atlanta.....	Florida.....	E. P. Barnum.....	Sauk Centre.
William Hacker.....	Shelbyville...	Georgia.....	A. T. C. Pierson.....	St. Paul.
William Lavelly.....	Springfield...	Indiana.....	William S. Combs...	St. Paul.
Z. C. Luse.....	Iowa City.....	Illinois.....	A. T. C. Pierson.....	St. Paul.
Elisha S. Pitch.....	Flemingsb' rg	Iowa.....	H. R. Wells.....	Preston.
Isaac Sharp.....	Wyandotte.....	Kentucky...	W. S. Combs.....	St. Paul.
J. O. A. Fellows.....	New Orleans..	Kansas.....	Charles Griswold...	St. Paul.
J. H. Drummond.....	Portland.....	Louisiana...	John B. Raedman...	Ellsworth.
Hugh B. Jones.....	Baltimore.....	Maine.....	.....	.....
C. S. Coffinbury.....	Constantine...	Maryland...	.....	.....
Samuel H. Saunders..	Otterville.....	Michigan...	J. N. Castle.....	Stillwater.
Hugh McCowen.....	Winnipeg.....	Missouri...	James P. Pond.....	St. Paul.
E. E. Thorne.....	New York.....	Mississippi.	I. B. Cummings.....	Winona.
Robert C. Jordan.....	Omaha.....	Manitoba...	W. S. Combs.....	St. Paul.
Charles Ketchum.....	St. John.....	New Jersey	.....	.....
Henry S. Jost.....	Lunenburg.....	New York...	J. E. Finch.....	Hastings.
Richard Vaux.....	Philadelphia..	Nebraska...	J. N. Castle.....	Stillwater.
Thomas Simpson.....	Montreal.....	N. Brnswk..	.....	.....
Thomas A. Doyle.....	Providence...	N. Scotia...	J. N. Castle.....	Stillwater.
Henry M. Aiken.....	Knoxville.....	Pennsylv na	J. N. Castle.....	Stillwater.
Philip C. Tucker.....	Galveston.....	Quebec.....	A. J. Edgerton.....	Dakota.
Parley L. Williams...	Salt Lake.....	R. Island...	A. T. C. Pierson.....	St. Paul.
W. G. Shaw.....	Burlington...	Tennessee..	.....	.....
Henry L. Palmer.....	Milwaukee...	Texas.....	R. H. Gove.....	Rochester.
William J. Bates, Sr..	Wheeling.....	Utah.....	S. E. Adams.....	Monticello.
.....	.....	Vermont...	Clark W. Thompson	Wells.
.....	.....	Wisconsin..	S. R. Merrell.....	Lake City.
.....	.....	W. Virginia	.....	.....

